



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

October 2014

FROM THE



RECTOR

"There is nothing more pedestrian (literally!) than walking on a way, a road, a path. But the moment we put one foot in front of the other, we very well might find ourselves

on a pilgrimage. Walking could turn out to be the most significant spiritual act in which we will ever engage. And the road we walk on the holiest piece of ground. Feet and faith are inextricably integrated."

So begins the preface to the book chosen for our next book study, *The Way Is Made by Walking: A Pilgrimage Along the Camino de Santiago* by Arthur Boers. We chose this book to connect with the theme for our Fall Stewardship program, "Walking the Way." So often we forget how much Jesus' life was about walking - first century Israel was bereft of cars, trains and buses, let alone airplanes! Horses and even donkeys were largely reserved for those with money; the only way to get from one place to another for most people was to walk. And when he asked people to follow him, he meant not only in faith, but on a literal journey on their feet.

For us to, following Jesus means both walking in faith and walking on our feet,

that is to say, our faith is not only about what we believe but what we do. We are called to worship and serve God in heart, mind, soul and strength - in other words the whole of our human being. Cleaning the house, going to the store, watching TV - and all the other things we do day to day - are all part of our how we live out our faith.

Stewardship season includes our annual pledge drive, but it is far more than that. It is a time to reflect on how we serve and worship God with every part of ourselves, how we serve and worship God with every one of the gifts which God has given us - and that includes our bodies. Yesterday a small group of us went on our first prayer walk. As we walked the streets between Northern Boulevard, the railway line and route 25A, not only did we discover more about our neighbors (and greeted many of them), but we found ourselves drawn to quiet reflection and prayer - our bodies joined our souls in communion with God. What a blessing!



Over the next few weeks we invite you to join us as we reflect on what it means for us to be a community “walking the Way” of Christ with:

- Weekly stewardship reflections in our bulletins, written by Episcopal leaders across the country.
- Weekly stories of personal transformation through the practice of intentional giving from your fellow parishioners.
- Prayer walks every Tuesday morning at 8.30am and Sunday morning at 9.00am, meeting at the church.
- A book study on the theme of Pilgrimage.
- Special events including a labyrinth walk at Avalon in Stony Brook and an All Saints Costume Party.
- An invitation to reflect on how your faith in and commitment to Christ is reflected in your giving.

Please join us!

Blessings
Raewynne

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

We look forward to beginning our book study, *The Way Is Made by Walking: A Pilgrimage Along the Camino de Santiago* by Arthur Boers, on Tuesday October 14 at 7.00pm and every second week after that in the downstairs classrooms of the education wing. Books can be ordered through the office.

Family Bible study is back! We gather every second Tuesday evening, beginning October 7, at 5.30pm in Mills Hall, for pizza, bible study and prayer. All welcome!

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship season is here! Look out for mailings and other events in our weekly bulletins and email newsletters.

THE WARDENS' COLUMN

As we are approaching the annual Harvest Festival, it reminds us of how important Christian stewardship is. It is about our focus on the Lord, using our gifts God has given us, and also building relationships with others. The Harvest Festival is a perfect example of our stewardship here at St. James. The gifts that individuals can share are limitless. One of the definitions of stewardship is a person using their talents and sacrificing desires to do the right thing. That is exactly what has been going on in preparation for the Festival.

Stewardship in a relationship means not taking another for granted and giving 100%. Our previous relationships were strengthened and new ones were formed with others. We would like to offer our deepest appreciation and gratitude to all those who have participated in the preparations for the Harvest Festival, and to all those who will be helping on the day of the Festival, for living into our mission here at St. James and for sharing their gifts. For any parishioners who have not yet been able to volunteer, please call one of the table chairs (*see next article*) to see where you will be able to share your gifts.

*Peace and Blessing,
Debbie and Alex*

HARVEST FESTIVAL LAST MINUTE DETAILS

St. James annual Harvest Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 4 from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., **rain or shine**. In the event of rain, many tables will be placed in the Christian Education building and Mills Hall. We are still open! Bring your friends!

Many people have been busy for the past several weeks preparing for this important church event, and everyone's help is needed to make this a successful fund raiser.

How have you contributed of your time and/or treasure to ensure that this will be both fun for you and good for St. James? Here are some last minute ways that you can help:

Baked Goods: Bake some cookies, muffins, breads, bars, brownies, cupcakes, or cakes and bring them in early on the day of the Festival. Gluten-free and sugar-free items are welcome. Please be sure to label your donations, especially if they contain nuts.

Book Nook: Help to transport the books from the Christian Ed. building to Mills Hall on Tuesday, September 30 at 5:30 p.m. and set up the tables. Set up books on Thursday, October 2 at 6 p.m. in Mills Hall. If you are available on Friday, October 3 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., spend a couple of hours to help sell the books. You can also help on the day of the Festival. Contact Stephanie Coleman (751-4151 or ssc6263@gmail.com) if you can help out.

Farmers' Market: If you have excess vegetables in your garden, you can donate them to the Farmers' Market. Bring them early on the morning of the Festival.

Set up/Clean up: Help to set out tables, set up tents, and cart boxes early on Saturday

morning, or to put away the tables, etc. at the end of the Festival. If you can help out here, please contact Chris Mauro at 689-1419 or chris.mauro@cmsheattransfer.com.

Volunteer to help staff one of the tables for a few hours. **Come to shop** at the many tables, and enjoy some lunch. Please remember to pray for good weather!!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS OCTOBER 5

The annual Blessing of the Animals will take place during the 9:30 a.m. service. Each animal will receive an individual blessing. All animals are welcome. Please be sure that your pet is appropriately crated or leashed during the service.

OUTREACH

The Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry currently needs donations of pasta, pork & beans, juice, macaroni & cheese, and brown paper grocery bags. THANK YOU to all who served at the Pantry during St. James' month of September! It was a busy month. The day George and I were there with Linda Misa, we packed bags non-stop and served families with a total of 30 people in them. That was in 3 hours! And George's Spanish even came in handy. Donations may 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, along with any fresh vegetables from your garden. The Pantry, located at St. Thomas of Canterbury in Smithtown, is open from 9 a.m. to noon, weekdays.

Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk is

sponsoring the 16th annual Robert Metcalf Memorial Golf Classic at St. George's Golf & Country Club in Stony Brook on Monday, October 13, 2014.

Benefits like this help provide funds to literally make dreams come true. Right now, Kimberly is putting in 300 hours of "Sweat Equity" on her home-to-be in Mastic Beach and on other Habitat houses. Just a few years ago, Kimberly served in the armed forces only to come home disabled, jobless, and homeless. Slowly she has rebuilt her life and her new Habitat home will be the icing on the cake for her and her daughter. Would you like to help people like Kimberly? Contact Ken LeCluse at 588-1176 if you would like to participate in St. James' next Habitat workday. Maybe you are artistic? Habitat is looking for individuals interested in making handmade "Welcome Home" signs that can be hung on the doors of new homes during the dedication ceremonies and gifted to the family moving in. Maybe you would like to help with Habitat's holiday programs for Thanksgiving or Christmas? For more information, go to www.habitat.suffolk.org or call 631-422-4828.

Protestant Campus Ministry has had a wonderful start to the fall semester with Chaplain Brenda Ford at the helm.

Students are excited as the new year begins. Newsday reports that SBU has enrolled its largest class ever: 2,855 freshmen, with 75% from New York State. They are not all Christian, and not all Protestant, of course, but it shows how important this ministry can be. There are also 181 new faculty members this fall. PCM serves faculty and staff too! According to Newsday, SBU is the largest single-site employer on LI with more than 14,000 employees. Is it any wonder that this needs to become a full-time ministry? PCM has brought a new printer and hopes to employ a couple of student Peer Ministers

for the fall, thanks to a small grant from Episcopal Charities of LI. SBU tech guys will hopefully update PCM's computer and software for free. Finances continue to be a challenge for this ministry. Please keep the ministry, Chaplain Brenda, and the students in your prayers. One PCM graduate is doing an internship with at-risk youth at the Cal Farley Ranch in Amarillo, TX, showing the influence PCM has had on her. Students are once again collecting toiletries for women transitioning from domestic violence situations. Please leave any toiletry donations in the basket at the back of the church.

Camp DeWolfe Service Saturdays are September 27, October 4 and 25. If you can help participate in the stewardship and physical care of the camp, there will be opportunities for painting, landscaping, gardening, beach clean-up, and more. Bring your friends, family, and neighbors. Ages 8 and up are welcome. Lunch is provided. Sign up by calling 631-929-4324 or email office@campdewolfe.org The camp is located at 408 North Side Road, Wading River.

It is not too soon to start to knit or crochet for the Seamen's Church Institute's *Christmas at Sea* Program. Hats and scarves are given to mariners from all over the world at Christmastime. See Raewynne for hat and scarf patterns. The crafts involved in making these gifts are actually a form of creativity, self-discipline, and meditation. Some claim it is impossible to worry and have an anxious mind when you use your hands and watch the stitches being formed. They say they actually feel refreshed, somehow calmer after working on these projects. The seamen, of course, are grateful for the gifts and feel the warmth you send in more ways than one. Things to know about the Seamen's Church Institute: It was founded in 1834 and is a voluntary,

ecumenical agency affiliated with the Episcopal Church; it provides pastoral care, maritime education, and legal and advocacy services for mariners. More information can be found at www.seamenschurch.org.

St. James Church's Harvest Festival is Saturday, October 4. It is the major source of outreach funds for this church. We need your time and talent as well as your treasure. Here's how you can help: Invite family, friends and neighbors to come; bake items for the bake table; donate books and CDs; carry books to Mills Hall, donate home-made crafts; donate lightly used and new gift items and antiques to the Gold Elephant table; donate jewelry; donate home-grown vegetables; donate plants with labels; help price donations; spend some time "working" the day of the festival – either setting up, selling, or cleaning up. And last but not least, as you by the delicious jam and other goodies at the Festival as gifts for friends and for yourself, enjoy the day!!

- Sue Krall

OFFICE ANGELS NEEDED

During the week on October 20, Laurie will be on vacation. Office angels are needed to spend a couple of hours each day in the office answering phones, taking in the mail and printing the Sunday bulletin. If you have a couple of hours to spare, please call Laurie in the office before October 17.

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Alec Douglass, will be among the members of Lehigh University Choral Arts who will be performing Friday, November 21 at 7 p.m. in Carnegie Hall. Tickets, \$20 - \$100 are available at www.carnegiehall.org.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 1 Knitters group 11:30 a.m.
Book Nook sorting 6:00 p.m.
- 2 Jewelry sorting/pricing 9:30 a.m.
Book Nook sorting 6:00 p.m.
- 3 **Book Nook open** 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 4 **Harvest Festival** 9:30 a.m -3 p.m.
- 5 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Prayer walk 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
The Blessing of the Animals
Choir rehearsal 11:15 a.m.
- 6 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Prayer walk 8:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Fall Clergy Day (Rector)
Family Bible study 5:30 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 10 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 12 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Prayer walk 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 am with
Children's Formation classes
- 13 **Columbus Day** - office closed
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Prayer walk 8:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 16 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.

- 17 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Mills Hall rental 1 - 5 p.m.
- 19 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Prayer walk 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 am with
Children's Formation classes
- 20 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 21 Prayer walk 8:30 a.m.
 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
 Family Bible study 5:30 p.m.
 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 24 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 26 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Prayer walk 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 am with
Children's Formation classes
- 27 Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Prayer walk 8:30 a.m.
 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
 Recovery Group 7:30 p.m.
- 29 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 30 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
 Suffolk Diocesan Pre-
 Convention Meeting at St.
 Ann's, Sayville
- 31 Halloween
 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.

Jake Dean
 Calvin Dean
 Robin Dahlgard
 Helga Reisenauer
 Ian Van Praagh
 Emily Mauro
 Ryan Grigoletto
 Tony Mercep

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis & Donna Guinaw
 Bill & Amelia Bowden
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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Art Gureck
 Theresa Euler
 Cynthia Bennett
 Anna Rung
 Brendan Jeffrey
 Leslie Price
 Teddy Fiore-Rosenfeld
 Jeremy Siedlak
 Patty Prentiss
 Sue Krall
 Sean Glogg
 Alex Euler