



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

June 2013

FROM THE



RECTOR

“How does this congregation serve God’s mission to God’s people in this community?”

This was the question posed to every parish on Long

Island by our bishop. Last month we heard the responses to the Bible study at our meeting on April 28; what follows is a summary of our responses to the bishop’s question, using as a framework the areas that the vestry has discerned God is calling us to.

1. Growing in faith with scripture and prayer.

- * Sunday and midweek services
- * family Bible study (with pizza!)
- * Bible study, though small in number, provides instruction and fellowship in Christ.
- * Godly Play for children and Journey to Adulthood for teens.
- * prayer chain.
- * Prayer Shawl Ministry comforts the sick and saddened.
- * home Eucharistic visits for those who are unwell or shut-in.

2. Building relationships in Christ.

- * working together on festivals.
- * coffee hour
- *welcome of children

3. Serving one another and the world.

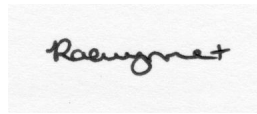
- * church cemetery - open to all
- * regular activities:
 - * hosting support groups, e.g., N.A.
 - * CSA pick up site
 - * Smithtown Food Pantry
 - * yoga classes
- * less regular/occasional events:
 - *annual blood drive
 - *caroling at nursing homes
 - *Christmas gifts and visits for UCP houses
 - *work days for Habitat and Camp DeWolfe
- * financial and board level support for
 - * Protestant Campus Ministry
 - * Bread for the World
 - * Habitat for Humanity

Some other comments were that the church has facilities that could be made available to the wider community – classroom space, a large hall and land. It was generally felt that the church does good works but could do more. One person suggested an after-school program for needy or abused children. Several people suggested that we could do a better job of letting the community know what the church does.

So what next? Often it’s easy to look at a list like this and say “We’re doing so much – we’re doing great” or “There are some huge gaps here – we should be doing more.” But two responses from the meeting perhaps

answer the “what next” question best: “We are disciples of Christ and are meant to teach and continue the work of Christ.” “We need passion and prayer (without excuses).”

How are you living as a disciple of Christ, continuing his work? Where is your passion, and what do you sense in your prayer life that God is calling you to? What do you need to be able to do it?



THE WARDEN’S COLUMN

Mission

As adults, there are many things we take for granted or perhaps have forgotten from when we were children. I think we take for granted the power as adults we have to solve problems and fix things. I think I am mindful of this as Mother’s Day has just passed and Father’s Day approaches.

Growing up, I lived in what would be considered a “fixer-upper” home. And my dad would fix everything. I don’t think I can recall a time when he wasn’t working on a project; floors, the roof, siding, plumbing, painting, caulking. It would have been a 10 year long “honey do” list. As I got older, I was able to help with the projects. That was the best! I got to spend time with my father, but looking back, more importantly it made me feel powerful to be able to fix things.

As adults, we want to feel powerful, we want to feel in control. I also think we also long for the days when if we got a cut, we could just cry like we were going to die and call for Mommy. And she would come and clean it, put a Band-Aid on it and then give us a hug and kiss. It was suddenly all better! When we were hungry we could call for

Mom. When we couldn’t find something, or answer a homework problem, or needed the spelling of a word, or anything, we could call for Mom and she would fix it. As I think about it, before the invention of the I-Phone 4S, Siri was called Mom.

I was recently reminded of my power when my daughter needed something fixed. Normally when I get home from work she is in her room with the door closed “doing her homework,” only to emerge at dinner time. But just yesterday she called me on my way home to tell me something needed fixing. When I pulled up to the garage and the door rolled up there she was inside, sitting on the steps waiting. After all, this was urgent! And she knew I would fix it.

So what is our “mission” here at St. James? What are you being “called” to do to serve the Church?

Mission and calling. These are serious and somber words. Words that I think most of us don’t want in our lives. After all, we are not monks. We are just people. But we are Christians, and as Christians we do have a call to answer and a mission to follow. Our calling and mission is to spread the good news of the Gospel.

Part of that good news is that Jesus has the power to fix us!!! In Jesus is the promise that what is broken in our lives will be fixed. You may have experienced this, or may believe in this, or maybe want to believe in this. Either way it is good news. Good news that is worth sharing. The news that, if we follow Jesus, we will have eternal life in Heaven. And that in Heaven, we will all be “fixed” and our shame, fears, pain, loneliness and suffering will be left behind.

Peace and blessings,
Chris

LIKE TO READ?

At clergy conference earlier this month, the bishop raised his concern with the way women are treated in our society, particularly in the light of sexual misconduct among politicians and in the military, and cultural conversations that seem to treat women as second class or have different expectations of behavior for men and women.

Sometimes it's difficult to talk about these things. But I just read a great mystery novel, set in the nineteenth century, which addresses some of them, *Midnight at Marble Arch* by Anne Perry. Perry uses the conventions of the murder mystery to explore issues of sexual violence and the way society is complicit: "Detective Thomas Pitt and his wife Charlotte are attending a lavish party at the Spanish Embassy, a policeman breaks into Pitt's conversation with investor Rawdon Quixwood to break the terrible news that Quixwood's wife, Catherine, has been viciously assaulted at their home, and left for dead. Worse still, it appears that the assailant was someone she had trusted as she opened the door to the attacker herself."

- Raewynne

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL & YARD SALE JUNE 8, 2013

We are hoping for a sunny day for our Festival this year! Here are several ways in which you can help to make this important fund raiser a big success:

Bake Table - Calling all St. James bakers (and baker wannabes)! The Strawberry Festival is just around the corner...we're

looking for donations of your yummy goodies to make the bake table a success again. Help support St. James by making an item or two (cookies, bars, breads, muffins, cakes, brownies, cupcakes) for the Bake Table. The more we have the more we sell. Sugar-free or gluten-free goods will be appreciated as well. Please label your donations (especially if you put in nuts) and bring them by early on the day of the festival. Contact Karen Douglass: 928-6633, kdouglass@optonline.net or Stephanie Coleman: 751-4151, ssc6263@gmail.com or tell us in church if you will be baking!

Grandma's Attic - Clean out your house and donate housewares, linens, decorative items, glassware, dishes, etc. All must be clean and in saleable order. Please, no books, CDs, tapes, or clothing. Bring in your donations before 12 Noon on Friday, June 7. Pricing sessions will be held on: Tuesday 5/28 & Thursday 5/30 - 5:30 p.m. Saturday 6/1 at 10:00 a.m. Monday 6/3 & Friday 6/7 at 5:30 p.m. For those who cannot come at that time, you are welcome to help price at a time more convenient to you. Help is also needed on the day of the Festival. Contact Jennifer Lawrence at 862-7374 if you can work for a few hours that day.

Grandpa's Attic - Clean out your garage or basement and donate tools, athletic equipment, furniture or electronics in good working order. Bring your donations in by Friday, June 7.

Plant Table - If you like to garden, you may have extra perennials to share. If so, pot them up, label them as to name and growing conditions needed, and bring them early on the day of the Festival.

Strawberries for Sale - The strawberries this year will be picked on the first week for

best seasonal flavor. Help will be needed with hulling on Friday, June 7 at 6 p.m. - the berries will be ultra fresh. We also need three people to help at the table on the day of the Festival. Contact Lil Moleti at 675-0385 if you are able to help.

Set up and clean up - If you are available early in the morning or later in the afternoon, your help is needed to set up the tables, tote boxes, or clean up and put away tables afterwards. Contact Chris Mauro: chris.mauro@cmsheattransfer.com or 689-1419 if you can help.

PRAYERS FROM GODLY PLAY
By Miss Carol's class

Thank You, God, for always being with us.
Isabella

Thank You for the Holy Spirit and for making us your children. Calvin

God, I wished for a gerbil because my dead gerbil is dead and I need a mouse and a cat.
Brooke Lynn

Thank You for judging the living and the dead and for bringing the Holy Spirit into every one of your sons and daughters. Jake

I love God. Finn

Thank You, God, for this day and please help people who were hit by Hurricane Sandy. Help sick people to get well again. Thank You, Lord, for everything you have provided for us. Amen. Eowyn

Thank You, Jesus for sending the Holy Spirit to come on this special day and for dying for our sins. Amen. Calvin

Thank You, God, for all this world, for best friends, best buddies, and best family. Jesse

The Holy Spirit will always be with anyone who believes in Jesus, I pray to the Lord.
Amen. Jake

Jesus loves me. Amen. Jeremy

- Carol Bluni

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Now that the nice weather is finally here, our thoughts are on outdoor activities and "getting away" travel plans. But just like the situation at your household, the bills at St. James keep coming in, totally disregarding that the days are longer and the temperatures warmer.

To help St. James Church keep current with its obligations, please review your pledge payments made so far this year to make sure you are up to date. If you are not up to date, please make an effort to become current.

If you are donating without pledging, or putting cash in the plate, we do not have the ability to provide you with a record of your donations. You will not then have a letter from the church that will be acceptable for tax deduction purposes. Please consider at this time making a pledge for the rest of the year, by filling in a pledge card (found in the racks in the back of the church) and putting it in the Sunday collection plate, or mailing it to the office, or by notifying me or Laurie in the church office. Become a Pillar of St. James Church.

As an alternative, you can sign up for eGive on the St. James website (stjamesstjames.org) by clicking on the eGive button. Using eGive provides a way

of automatically having donations made electronically from your checking account or credit card. A record of the donations will be provided that is acceptable for tax purposes.

eGive is also recommended for anyone who takes a vacation whether in summer or winter. In fact, eGive is convenient for all parishioners who don't want to fuss with paper checks, or just want to keep donations current when not in church weekly. I have been using eGive for a year and I don't have to run around for a check on Sunday, and when away, I don't have to mail in a donation. Using eGive insures that my donation has been made. A confirmation of each donation is sent to me and to the church office.

On another matter, we are still in need of two or three parishioners to volunteer to audit the 2012 financial books of St. James. Prior auditing experience is not required. Please contact me (584-3351 or doug34@optonline.net) to discuss.

- Doug Dahlgard

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAY

On Friday, May 17, volunteers from our church and members of the Smithtown Byzantine Church worked together on a Habitat house on Ackerman Street in Central Islip. We arrived at 9 a.m. and after an instructional, informational and safety talk we proceeded to paint the entire interior of the house – a rather large house, with three bedrooms, two baths, living and dining rooms, kitchen, basement, and many closets. One of the larger Habitat houses, which had been “rehabbed” from a small ranch house by the construction of a second floor. Many thanks go to our St. James crew: Peter

Cahill, Chris Mauro, Les Bengtson, Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld, Jack Schultheis and his friend Richard Shepherd, and Ken LeCluse. Joining us from the Byzantine Church were Stan Purgar, Joe Andrews, Robert Knapp, and Josh Knapp – organized and motivated by our own Peter Cahill. We all look forward to the next Habitat build – why not join us?

- Ken LeCluse

OUTREACH

Our Friday Fast for Lent offering of \$50 was sent to Episcopal Relief and Development. It is never too late to give to this great outreach arm of the Episcopal Church.

St. James parishioners painted a 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom Habitat house in Central Islip on May 17. Ken LeCluse was able to give Habitat a check for \$250.00 from St. James' outreach budget. Thanks to all who painted, and to Ken and Peter Cahill for organizing this great work day!

Build a Backpack for Habitat. See the article below for a list of school supplies that are needed for elementary, middle school, and high school students in Habitat families. Complete backpacks are also welcome! Please have your donations in by Wednesday, July 10.

Donations to the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry can be made at any time. They may be left in the cart in the hallway of the Christian Education building. Especially needed at this time are fruit juice, macaroni & cheese, pork & beans, canned fruit, beef stew or other meat dinners, and ravioli. When the cart is full, please take a turn transporting the food to the Pantry. The next time St. James parishioners will serve at the

Pantry will be during the month of July. Three people are needed each day from 9 a.m. to Noon. Watch for the sign-up sheet in Mills Hall.

Protestant Campus Ministry students at Stony Brook University made up 75 baskets of toiletries to give to women transitioning from domestic violence and to pregnant teens at a home for unwed mothers. Your contributions are being put to great use! You can continue to place those small bottles from your vacation this summer in the basket in the narthex.

Our Annual Strawberry Festival and Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, June 8.

A portion of the proceeds from this sale will be used for the outreach budget. Opportunities to help include donating items for the sale, jam making, pricing yard sale items, and selling during the Festival.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is making the most beautiful shawls for our ill parishioners and others for whom we have been praying. I saw one magnificent shawl knitted with love that is being sent across the country! Contact Wylie Hunt at 751-5618 for more information about this ministry.

- Sue Krall

PARKING SAFETY

You may have noticed for the past few weeks that we have placed orange cones at the bottom of the driveway. We are having a safety issue with cars parked on both sides of the driveway and on 25A right at the bottom of the driveway. This leads to only a single lane for entering and leaving the parking lot. This is creating an extremely dangerous situation. PLEASE do not move the cones and do not park along the bottom of the driveway unless you are using one of

the appointed handicapped spots (and you have a valid handicapped tag). If there is no room in the main parking lot, you can part just down the cemetery lane past the playground, or in the parking lot on the opposite side of the church behind the Christian Education building (accessible from Northern Blvd.). If you choose to park on 25A, please do not do so at the very bottom of the driveway because it makes it difficult to see oncoming traffic when pulling out of the parking lot. Thank you for your cooperation.

- Stephanie Coleman

ST. JAMES ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild lovingly prepares the table for all Sunday services and special services – holidays, baptisms, weddings, and funerals/memorials. It is our ministry to take care of the linens, candles, flowers and sacramental vessels. Do you realize that the Altar Guild pays for the bread and wine each week, in addition to the candles, liquid wax, linens and any other necessities for the service? An offering for flowers in honor of a loved one, as a memorial, in celebration of or in giving thanks for a special person or significant event in your life (birthday, anniversary, graduation) for you or your loved ones helps the Altar Guild continue to provide all that is necessary each week for our services.

Please consider providing an offering for the flowers on the altar. The names and purpose of the offering will be included in the Sunday bulletin on your requested date. Forms can be found in the back of the church, or you can call the office during the week. This will continue to sustain our ministry as Altar Guild.

- Colette Tarantino

BUILD-A-BACKPACK FOR HABITAT

Once again, St. James has signed on to participate in Habitat for Humanity's "Build-a-Backpack" program that supplies school supplies and backpacks to Habitat kids for the upcoming school year. Habitat Homeowners work hard to complete their sweat equity requirements and prepare themselves for the responsibilities of home ownership. Build-a-Backpack introduces Habitat kids to a continual emphasis on education, hard work, and community involvement. You can help out by purchasing any of the suggested supplies on the list below. Complete backpacks are also welcome! A box for donations will be placed on the pew in the hallway of the Christian Education building, near the Food Pantry cart. **Please have your donations in by Wednesday, July 10.**

Elementary students:
Pocket folders
Marble notebooks
Pencils
Pencil case
Safety scissors
Glue sticks or Elmer's glue
Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
Pocket tissues
Ruler
Eraser

Middle school students:
Pocket folders
Pencils & pens
Pencil case
Looseleaf paper & binder
Notebooks
Glue sticks or tape
Markers or colored pencils
Ruler
Index cards

Highlighter
Scissors
Pocket tissues

High school students:
Pocket folders
Pens & pencils
Looseleaf paper & binder
Notebooks
Tape or glue sticks
Highlighter
Ruler
Colored pencils or markers
Index cards
Pocket tissues.

Backpacks for all age groups are needed. Each backpack will be filled with the requested materials before they are taken to the Habitat office

LUNCH BUNCH

The May Lunch Bunch trip to the Bayard Cutting Arboretum was canceled, as the Memorial Day holiday weekend affected the attendance of many. It will be postponed until June, so look for a sign up sheet and tell your friends. This special luncheon is a unique opportunity to enjoy lunch with a program. Car pooling from the church and directly to the building will be available for those needing more help. Call Lil Moleti at 675-0385 for further info.

- Lil Moleti

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Congratulations to our additional May Graduates!

Bryan Petschauer graduated from Farmingdale College on May 19th with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management.

Matthew Petschauer graduated from SUNY Plattsburgh on May 18th with a Bachelor's Degree in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management.

Congratulations to our June Graduates!

Kristina Euler will be graduating from Ward Melville High School with honors and is planning to further her education at California Polytechnic State University. Her primary focus will be a degree in Civil Engineering. She is also planning to continue with her passion in ballet.

Eric Mercep will receive his M.B.A. from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He will return to New York City to work for Deloitte Touche.

Alexandra Orlich is graduating from Smithtown East High School. Because of her love for animals and her aspirations of becoming a zoo veterinarian she will be attending the University of New Hampshire and majoring in Zoology. She was also selected to attend a week long research program on Appledore Island, which is a part of the Isles of Shoals off the New Hampshire coastline. There she will study and have hands-on experience with a variety of research fields such as migration bonding, aquatic virus research, and honey bee behavior.

Lindsay Petschauer is graduating from Smithtown West High School. She has been a member of the National Art Honor Society and a Varsity Cheerleader for four years. Lindsay will be attending the Fashion Institute of Technology (NYC) and majoring in Communication Design. She would like to be a graphic designer someday.

On Sunday, May 19th, we welcomed into our parish family Oliver James Cousins, who was Baptized. Oliver lives with his parents, Jennifer and Rodney in Hauppauge.

At the Easter Vigil service on March 30th, we welcomed into the parish family Jean and Johnny Sommer, who were Baptized. Jean, her husband John, and children Laura and Johnny live in Stony Brook.

Long-time parishioners may remember Dubois Smith, a St. James resident who passed away on May 13th. A funeral service will be held for him on Saturday, June 15th at 11 a.m. with burial following in our cemetery. Please keep his daughter, Darcy Smith Borden, and her family in your prayers.

Jeremiah Glogg recently won a SEPTA Council Executive Director Award from Western Suffolk BOCES. Among the reasons for the award are the fact that he "is an "A" student, who is determined to continue his education following graduation (he is now an 11th grader). He is dedicated to his family, and strives to be a positive role model for his younger brother, Sean. He also finds time to volunteer at his church. His teachers are convinced that he can overcome any obstacles and that he will maintain his motivation to succeed." Way to go, Jeremiah!

GARDEN OF EVE FARM: LAST CALL!

Once again, we will host a community supported agriculture pickup here at church. Garden of Eve Farm, founded in 2001 by environmental advocates Chris and Eve Kaplan Walbrecht, is dedicated to providing delicious organic vegetables, fruits and beautiful flowers and to “making changes in the world by living them.”

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS:

- * Cook healthier, more delicious dishes. The share includes more than 40 varieties of vegetables which will challenge you to eat more fresh foods.
- * Help the environment. They do not use any toxic pesticides, herbicides, or chemical fertilizers.
- * Support your local farmers and the local economy. Enjoy farm visits and tours, CSA member potlucks, and a relationship with the farm.

You can sign up for weekly or bi-weekly shares of vegetables, fruit, flowers, eggs, and/or cheese, and/or monthly shares of meat; the season runs from June through mid-November. Pickup is Wednesday afternoon/evening; all members are asked to volunteer at the pickup a few hours during the season.

Sign up is open at
<http://www.gardenofevefarm.com/csa.htm>.

- Raewynne

ILLUMINATING FAITH; THE EUCHARIST IN MEDIEVAL LIFE AND ART

An exciting exhibition which opened May 17 at the Morgan Library and Museum in New York City explores the Eucharist in medieval art. The exhibit is featuring more than 65 exquisitely illuminated manuscripts which offer glimpses into the medieval culture, and explores the ways in which artists depicted the celebration of the sacrament. This exhibit runs through to September 2, 2013. You can learn more about the exhibition at:
<http://www.themorgan.org/exhibition.asp?id=73>

JUNE CALENDAR

- 1 Grandma's Attic pricing 10 a.m.
Nursery School Family Fun Day
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 2 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Christian Formation
Classes
- 3 Grandma's Attic pricing 5:30 pm
Worship Committee 7:30 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 4 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 6 Jam making 4:30 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Grandmas Attic pricing 5:30 pm
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 8 **Strawberry Festival** 9:30 a.m.
- 3:30 p.m. (rain or shine)
- 9 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation end of
year celebration

- 10 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 11 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Finance Committee 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Dubois Smith funeral 11:00 a.m.
- 16 **Father's Day**
Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 17 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 20 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 21 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 23 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 24 Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Lunch Bunch 11:45 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 28 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 29 Mills Hall rental 7:00-10:00 p.m.
- 30 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Mills Hall rental 3:00-8:00 p.m.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Dara Linthwaite
Stephanie Coleman
Lindsay Petschauer
Alexandra Rich
Chris Mauro
Skyler Baez
Dennis Guinaw
Peter Plaschka
Irina Bellassai
Lauren Tarantino
Ruth LeCluse
Claudette Plaschka
Catie Douglass
Bill Bowden

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Linda Misa
Ron & June Davies
Charlie & Marge Kreussling
Bill & Gabi Reisenauer
Ken & Ruth LeCluse
Art & Arlyne Gureck