

ST. JAMES EPISTLE



FEBRUARY 2018

Rector's Message

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me
Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. (Psalm 51: 10, 16)*

The above two verses from the sublime Psalm 51 capture two hallmarks and designs for our Lenten practices. First, to seek God's grace in repentance and turning to God by focusing on our own spiritual life. And, second, realizing that the first leads to the second, which is to clear our hearts and minds to praise the God who loved us enough to sacrifice His Son for us. We are approaching the season of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. We lay aside the speaking or singing of alleluias for a season and drape ourselves more fully with the cloak of penitence; we seek God's healing forgiveness and focus, perhaps, more on how our lives might more fully breathe with a sense of God's presence.

But there are some, many even, who dread the coming of Lent and feel it is too dark, too full of the questions of sin and the need to confess those sins, both to ourselves and to God. We should caution ourselves and each other, as we approach Lent, not to think of repentance as a club that God or the Church uses to beat us up over our humanity. We are all intrinsically human; no one understands that more completely than God. "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew" We pray, as we move through the season of Lent, for God's cleansing spirit to heal us, renew us, and place us into a position of praise. Praising God, with our lives, energy, prayers, love, voices, and our hope is what we were actually made for. Joy, happiness, love, and renewal are all by products of drawing nearer to our Lord and Savior. As we draw ever closer to the God who saved us, we will find ourselves healing, finding strength in community, and so much more. Turning our lives over (or back over) to God is the step we take in repentance and, in that turning, we begin to find the voice God gave us to "Open our lips...and our mouths will proclaim your praise." Praise comes from joy, a sense of renewed life and spirit; praise comes from a deep place within us that we don't necessarily come by easily. The process of returning to God in Christ may be fraught with doubt, a profound need for forgiveness (mostly of ourselves), and a willingness to reflect on God's gifts for each of us. But walking more closely with God also brings us a sense of belonging that no other thing can or will. Let us be willing to do the hard work of repentance and take advantage of all the things happening at St. James (like The Good Book Club) that might make turning to God easier, lighter, and more beneficial for us, in the end.



In Christ, George+

First Sunday Breakfast



Chase away those winter blues and join us for warm and delicious pancakes served with scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage and plenty of hot coffee! The St. James Men's Group will again serve their much acclaimed breakfast from **8:45-9:30 a.m. in the parish hall**. Since February is the month of romance, why not impress "your significant other" with a tasty treat served between the two services!! **See you there on February 4th!!**

Save the Date: Candlemas

Feast of the Presentation of our Lord: Friday, February 2nd at 10 a.m.

On Friday, the 2nd of February, at 10 a.m., we will celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. The feast has been celebrated since at least the beginning of the 4th Century, where it is referenced by bishops in sermons of the day that have survived. In 1887, the diary of a nun named Egeria, who made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 381 AD, refers to the liturgy of the Presentation in Jerusalem. The feast is often called Candlemas, because light is an important part of the readings, and candles are often blessed and used at the service. The feast was once referred to as the Feast of the Purification of Mary. In Luke 2: 22–40, Mary and Joseph take the infant Jesus to the Temple, 40 days after His birth, so that Mary may be ritually purified. Jewish custom at the time was that women were ritually unclean after giving birth and would be purified 40 days after the birth.



While coming to the Temple, Mary encounters the old seer Simeon, who takes the baby Jesus into his arms and celebrates that he has at long last seen the Messiah. His beautiful *Song of Simeon* (BCP, 135) gives us a glimpse into who Jesus will be. Mary is warned that her heart will be pierced, too, foreshadowing Jesus' death.

Candlemas is a celebration of Simeon's recognition of Jesus, and of Anna's, and Jesus' entrance into the community of people who would ultimately become his followers and disciples.

God our Father, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear see these candles may walk in the path of goodness, and come to the Light that shines forever, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The service begins with us all processing with candles into the church together. People are encouraged to bring candles that they might use in the coming year; they will be blessed later on. As we move through the season after Epiphany and await the beginning of Lent, recognizing and celebrating our Lord, who is the light of the world, seems most fitting.

Women of St. James Book Group's latest selections

Join the Women of St James Book Group as we gather to discuss our next selections:

- **February 22nd at 7 p.m.** – *In the Bleak Midwinter* by Julia Spencer-Fleming. This is a mystery novel centered around a newly ordained Episcopal priest in a small town in upstate New York.
- **April 19th at 7 p.m.** – *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson. This is a compelling account of the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. It tells the stories of two men who shaped this event. One was a visionary architect who coordinated the construction of the fair. The other was a clever yet charming serial killer who used the fair to lure his victims.

What will we celebrate at St. James Pancake Supper on February 13th? **SHROVE TUESDAY ♦ MARDI GRAS ♦ FAT TUESDAY ♦ CARNIVAL ♦ PANCAKE TUESDAY**

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14th. Pancakes are associated with the day before Lent because they use up eggs, milk, and sugar before the fasting season begins. Hence, the day is also known as Fat Tuesday (*Mardi Gras* in French). Shriving (hearing the confession) of sins was customary on this day, hence the name Shrove Tuesday. Carnival is a farewell (*vale*) to meat (*carne*) before Lenten abstinence ... more symbolic now.



Come celebrate the holiday with your parish family on **Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30 p.m.** The meal will be cooked by our own St. Andrew's Guild, so you know it will be wonderful. The parish hall will be decorated to make this event a festive **Mardi Gras celebration**. Come get a mask and wear some beads, enjoy a pancake feast with amazing toppings – and experience a sharp contrast with the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday.

Farewell to Alleluias

Around 6:30 p.m. or so, after folks have eaten pancakes and celebrated, we will burn our palm fronds from last Palm Sunday, creating ashes. Bring your palms in, too, if you would like to add them to the fire. Then we will all go up to the church and have a brief child and adult friendly service, saying farewell to the singing and saying of *Alleluias* for the season of Lent. During Lent we do not say *Alleluia* in our liturgy, nor do we sing hymns with the alleluia in them. Not saying or singing *alleluia*, which means praise or thanksgiving to God, is our Anglican/Episcopal way of noting that we are in the season of Lent, and become more aware of the ways that we have failed to love God as intently as we should and to pray for forgiveness and strength. We are also remembering Christ's death and suffering; so we are grieving, too. Putting aside *alleluia* for a time is one of the ways we accomplish this. The brief liturgy will give the children a chance to play simple musical instruments (tambourines and the like), make some noise in church (imagine that!) and to sing *alleluias* for a final time until Easter. Please join us with your family, significant other, or on your own for a time together of brief worship which will help our children, and us, begin to understand why we do things the way we do during the Lenten season.



Ash Wednesday

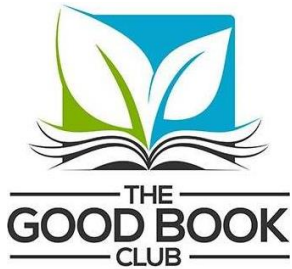
Lent's forty days begin on **Ash Wednesday, February 14th**. The number 40 is connected with many biblical events: the forty days Moses spent on Mount Sinai, the forty days and nights it rained in the great flood of Noah; the forty years the Israelites wandered in the desert, and the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness facing the temptations to abandon his mission. The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of Christians for Easter's Resurrection through self-examination and repentance, prayer, fasting and self-denial.



On Ash Wednesday the liturgy is simple and hauntingly beautiful. Ashes are imposed on the foreheads of those who desire them with the words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." In the remembering, we say the words of Psalm 51, begging God's mercy, and the litany of penitence, recalling the ways we have been unfaithful to God. Then we are assured that, though we may be dust, God loves us with an everlasting love and sent Jesus to show us that we are dust worth dying for. **Services on Ash Wednesday are at noon and 7 pm.** Come and worship with your parish family and leave wearing the sign of your faith out into the world.

The Good Book Club

Growing up, my grandparents often referred to the Bible as “The Good Book,” a common euphemism for their time. They lived in a time when reading scripture was common and widespread. In ways, in these current times we often tend to equate reading the Bible with conservatism or fundamentalist practices, a sign of our tendency to put people and things in a box. Actually, empirical studies done over and over again indicate that congregations that are actively reading the Bible tend to be more vibrant, spirit-filled, and growing than those who do not.



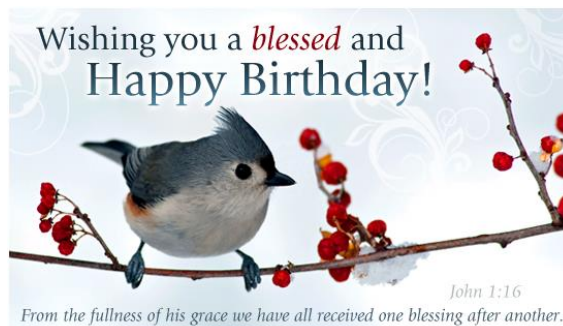
Forward Movement, the organization that has, for many years, brought us the wonderful daily reflections on scripture, *Forward Day by Day*, was started in the 1930's to encourage the daily reading of scripture. Part of their current mission is to build vital and vibrant congregations with ideas that include reading scripture and engaging it in community more frequently. To that end, they have teamed up with the Episcopal Church USA and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry to bring us, through Forward Movement, a Lenten and Easter practice called, appropriately, The Good Book Club.

Everyone at St. James is invited to join The Good Book Club. We have ordered extra quantities of the *Forward Day by Day* quarterlies for February through May. Beginning February 11th (the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, on February 14), we will encourage everyone to begin a daily reading from *Day by Day*. During Lent, each reading will move us in sequence through a section of Luke's Gospel. We will move through the entirety of Luke, a day at a time, with reflections for each day during the weeks of Lent in February and March. Every Sunday, between the services, you are encouraged to come (even if for a few minutes), have some coffee with us, and join in the exciting discussions that unfold around our discoveries of how God is speaking to us in the Gospel of Luke.

During Easter, we will continue our reading in *Day by Day* with The Acts of the Apostles, believed to have been written by Luke as well. You need not join the conversation to take a *Forward Day by Day*. Please take one! A wonderful Lenten and Easter practice is to take up a brief, but regular reading of the Good Book and seeing what God unfolds for us there.

Celebrating February Birthdays

Jeffrey Dugan
Donna Paye
Molly Greaves
Charlotte Sullivan
Audrey Hunt
Jamie Baldwin
Margery Griffin
Siggi Ingimarsson



Connor Hillemeir
Joyce Bettencourt
Marjorie King
Francesca Flynn
Betty Marino
Marjorie Bingham
Daniel Roberts

Bishop Laura Ahrens to visit St. James

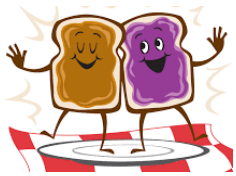
On Sunday, February 11th, The Right Rev. Laura Ahrens, Suffragan Bishop of Connecticut, will be with us at the 10:15 service for the triennial Episcopal visit. It is truly special when one of our Bishops is with us, an opportunity to see the Episcopal Church in CT beyond the walls of St. James and hear about Laura's ministries. Laura will preach and celebrate Holy Eucharist at the 10:15 a.m. service, be available during Coffee Hour for conversation, and will meet with our Vestry following those conversations. Please join us in a time of celebration as our Bishop visits!! Let's show her what a wonderful and joyous spirit we have in this place we love.

Outreach Ministry meeting this month

There will be an Outreach Ministry meeting on Sunday February 18th at 9 a.m., between the services, in the Parish Hall. This will not be a long meeting! The major goal of this meeting is to review and reflect back over Outreach in 2017 and lay out our Outreach goals for 2018. I invite anyone interested in Outreach at St. James to please join us at this meeting. If you are unable to attend but have something to contribute, please contact Sheila Church.

Church school news

The beginning of January was very exciting in the Church School wing!! After four months of "feeding" Sparks, we counted the coins and to our delight found that \$38.18 was collected. The children decided to use the money to purchase and donate peanut butter and jelly. The donation was split



between two of the Outreach Programs at St. James. Six jars of peanut butter and six jars of jelly were donated to Gifts of Love while five jars of each were donated to the Farmington Food Pantry. Way to go church schoolers!!

The children experienced a community coming together to help their neighbors. They enjoyed seeing how their donations of change added up to purchase a huge stack of peanut butter and jelly jars (22 in total). It was very heartwarming to watch the children place the donations in the appropriate baskets during the service on January 14th.

A big THANK YOU to all the children and adults who donated so generously to Sparks. For those of you who do not know, Sparks is stationed at the end of the office hallway in the church school wing. Sparks is hungry again and will be looking for something to eat ... favorite food is quarters, but also enjoys dimes, nickels, and pennies. Please help our children collect change to make another donation later in the school year.

First Sunday is February 4th with our activity starting at 10:00 a.m. Please join us as we listen to a story or make a craft to share.

Tracey Roberts & Kathy Roach

We ♥ our children

Katrina Mason was named to the Champlain College Dean's List for the fall 2017 semester.

Mitch Guglielmo made the JV Basketball team at Farmington High.

Carolyn Ives is playing for the Girls' Varsity Basketball team also at Farmington High.

In This Corner from the Prayer Team

From time to time, the Prayer Team shares thoughts that have helped us, in the hopes that they may be of help to you, too. The following passage from Psalm 62 is a portion of the Lectionary reading for Sunday, January 21st. I am finding more and more that I must make quiet time and space in my life in order to "wait in silence", just as the psalmist did ... to hear the voice of God in my life ...

For God alone my soul in silence waits ; truly, my hope is in him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold so that I shall not be shaken.

In God is my safety and my honor; God my strong rock and my refuge.

Put your trust in him always, O people, pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

St. James Prayer Team ... Praying together for you

Always available, always confidential

Armen Slusarz

Carol Kirkwood

Donna Paye

Pat Clark

Introducing the new Vestry members

Julia Grieco: I live in Farmington with my husband Aaron, two children Holden and Mia, and our three pugs Oscar, Oliver and Vader. My family is my world! Aaron and I were raised Catholic and when looking to continue our faith journey, and at the encouragement of our children, we visited St. James Church and quickly realized we had found the perfect church for our family. I volunteer at St. James teaching Church School, as a Lector, in the Birthday Card Ministry, chairing the Pictorial Directory and various opportunities where I can share my talents. I am a graduate of St. Joseph's College with a Bachelor's in Business. I spent 14 years of my career in the corporate world in various marketing roles. For the last 7 years, I have been a stay home Mom and wife. I enjoy spending my time volunteering at my children's schools, watching my children's sports games, co-Brownie Leader, reading, time at the beach, and lounging with my pugs. I am honored to serve on the Vestry and look forward to serving God and St. James Parish.

Rebecca McFarland: My family has been members of St. James since 2013. My husband, Ingimar and I have 3 children: Sigg (8), Gisli (5), and Gigia (3). I am a lifelong Episcopalian. I've taught church school at St. James in the past and taught Godly Play at my previous church. I am currently a member of the choir, as well as performing in operettas throughout Connecticut. My day job is as a computer programmer.

Dona Waugh: I was born in Jamaica, West Indies and migrated to the U.S. in 1968. I have a BSC in Marketing and Business Administration and have worked in the insurance industry for 47 years; currently I work for Arbella Insurance Company, a mutual carrier out of Quincy, Massachusetts. I have always been an Anglican/Episcopalian and been a member of St James since 2000 and have served in many ministries and committees, Choir/Flower Delivery/Care Ministry/Coffee/ Vestry and Outreach. I also travelled with the Mission Team to Dominican Republic in 2016 and plan to do so again in 2018. My only son lives in Cos Cob, Connecticut. My hobbies are The Choir, my large extended family, and travelling; I have been to four continents; eventually I'll get to Africa.

RenewalWorks™

Our Vestry committed, last fall, to engaging in a process we all know as *RenewalWorks*, a program for parishes interested in spiritual growth and renewal. On January 14th, we began the first step in our journey of discovery and renewal by engaging the Spiritual Life Inventory. The SLI is intended to give us data about where we say we are spiritually and where we would like to go, among other things. As of this writing, just over 40 St. James parishioners have taken the Inventory and we are hearing many good things about folk's spiritual sensibilities being stirred by the process and questions therein. Please take the Inventory, if you have not already, in the final days it is available (the SLI goes offline after February 4th). If you have tried taking the Inventory, but have not been able to, don't be discouraged. Let Sue Deming or Fr. George know and we will get up you and running. If you would like a paper copy it is not too late to get one; again, let Sue or Fr. George know.



We have assembled a wonderful team who will take the next step in the *RenewalWorks* process. Beginning on February 21st, the St. James *RenewalWorks* Team will engage in deep conversation about questions raised by the Inventory. Below, please see the dates of the workshops and the dedicated parishioners who agreed to serve on the Team. Each meeting happens on a Wednesday, from February to April and engages specific questions.

- February 21st, Workshop 1: Where have we been?
- March 7th, Workshop 2: Where are we now?
- March 21st, Workshop 3: Where do we feel called to go?
- April 4th, Workshop 4: How will we get there?

Our hope is that engaging the questions around spiritual life and growth in this particular way, will be a major step for us moving forward. The *RenewalWorks* process is geared toward encouraging parishes to go deeper into their spiritual here and now with an eye toward where God may be calling us to go. One of the primary functions of the church is to challenge and encourage us to find ways to grow our sense of God's presence in our lives. Awareness of where we are can create fertile ground in which that sense of God can grow, strengthen, and become contagious. The Vestry hopes that you will actively engage with us in this process of renewal by taking the Spiritual Life Inventory, if you have not already done so, praying for the Team as they begin their work, and keeping your hearts and minds open as we move forward. If you would like to participate in the workshops, please contact Fr. George.

The St. James *RenewalWorks* Team is Carol Kirkwood, Ann Monroe-Baillargeon, Tracey Roberts, Victoria Costello, Julia Grieco, Michael Slusarz, Andrea Harris, Joyce Bettencourt, George Roberts, with Felicia DeDominicis and Donna Paye serving as co-facilitators.

Your picture in a brochure or on the website?

St. James Parish uses candid photos of various church activities on our website and in publications (like this *Epistle*). If you prefer that your photo NOT be displayed, please contact the parish office; we maintain a list of members whose likeness is not to be shared.

Summary of Vestry Minutes – December 21, 2017

In attendance: Fr. George Roberts, EJ Ososki (incoming Treasurer), Elizabeth Alligood, Sheila Church, Ann Monroe-Baillargeon, Jay Hostetter, Chris Roach, Jessica Watkin, Donna Paye, Todd Root (Absent: Cathie Martin, John Smith, Bill Raymond)

MINUTES: FOR NOVEMBER, 2017

Sheila moved to accept, Jay seconded, unanimous vote to accept.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Finance/Treasurer's report

Report for November, 2017 – Jay

Jay says: "In brief the attached report shows total income essentially on budget with pledge income, less than \$3,000 under budget. December historically accounts for a significant portion of annual pledge income, so hopefully 2017 will not be different, and we'll come in somewhere around budget. YTD expenses and consequently the YTD deficit, are about \$27,000 below budget." There were no questions or comments. Todd moved to accept, Donna seconded, unanimous vote to accept.

Resolution on the tax deduction for George's housing allowance

The resolution reads: "Resolution of the Vestry Meeting of 12/21/17: Whereas the Rev. George Roberts is employed as a minister of the Gospel by St. James Episcopal Church, Farmington, CT, which although providing a residence for him does not provide the full cost of maintaining and furnishing such a residence, the vestry resolves that of the total compensation of \$97,322 to be paid to the Rev. Roberts during 2018, that \$7,200 be designated a parsonage allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986 as amended, but in any event until further notice the parsonage allowance shall be \$600.00 per month."

Jay: We don't yet have his 2018 salary so shall we accept as written and then amend when we set the budget? Sheila moved to accept this proposal, Todd seconded, unanimous vote to accept.

2018 tentative budget – Jay and EJ

We should make the budget for pledge income for 2017. Jay has put \$260,000 in the budget for now, and we can make a decision about this the next time we meet, when we will know for sure what pledges are.

\$3,500 plate is consistent. \$3,500 line item "rummage sale" (should be changed to "craft fair") is what we made this year. Jerry will prepare a projection for the invested funds. Facilities rental of \$1,100 is consistent.

We haven't yet put in any salary increases for the staff; we have put in a tentative salary for the new youth minister. Treasurers' newsletter from Diocese said to put a 2% increase on church property expenses. Jay read and understood Vestry's concerns from November meeting about wanting to budget more for repairs and maintenance. We have some major expenses coming up. He put in \$15,000 instead of \$8,000–10,000 in response to this concern. Rectory expenses are the same, nothing in particular that needs to be done but if so we will budget for it. Supplies mostly the same with a few tweaks based on this year. Music has been the same, we didn't budget for guest musicians this year and then had some, can move money around in that category. Mission and Outreach: Diocese lowered our Diocesan contribution from 12.5% to 10% of 2015 income (2015 because it is trailing).

Five years ago we had a \$100,000 deficit, committed to reducing to \$50,000. Our endowment is \$900,000, so if we can keep the deficit to around \$50,000 we won't be eating into the endowment. Currently projecting a deficit of \$63,000 for 2018. If we want to keep it to \$50,000, the vast majority of the expenses are personnel, can't cut heating oil or electricity. We had a conversation about the level of the deficit and projected expenses for next year.

Repairs and maintenance

For this year's electrical work, Masotti (the contractor) has been asked for an invoice. Work was unplanned but Fire Marshal said we had to do it, work is done and would need to go against this year's budget, and is around \$7,000 as estimated. We need to pin a number down for next year. Also have talked about replacing the carpeting downstairs and on the stairs. Dalene has quoted us just over \$9,000, which seems about right or a little high. We need to get at least one more quote and are having trouble getting it. We also need to get a quote on painting the downstairs hallway and up the stairs. We'll get quotes before we proceed with the discussion.

Outreach – Sheila Church

Outreach Committee met last month and allocated funds, keeping \$1,600 to roll over to next year earmarked for DR trip. Angel Tree was mostly successful although some people took a tag and didn't bring the item.

Dominican Republic Trip, June 23 – July 1

January 15th deadline for application/commitment \$150 deposit, copy of passport. Partnering with St. Mark's in Tampa, who have three teams from the Tampa Deanery going down. San Timoteo Church will be completed and consecrated while our team is there. We have a fundraiser for the youth who are going, selling grinders for Super Bowl; Trish Guglielmo and Nicole Bittner coordinating.

Prayer Team – Donna Paye

Launched at 10:15 service December 10. Will be offered the 2nd Sunday of each month and hope to offer it at 8:00, too, but it depends how many people are on the team. Armen Slusarz and Donna were there for the launch. There was a line of people out the door; Donna was so moved by the acceptance of this idea by the parish. People want it to be more than once a month. Also they are still praying behind the scenes. Powerful to offer in the context of the Eucharist. Please continue to pray for the prayer team.

OLD BUSINESS

Youth minister search – update

Have made a tentative offer at \$15,000 for 10 hours a week, contingent on setting goals and expectations, which we would do before a letter of agreement, and budget. Candidate has asked us to consider a higher salary, but that is not financially possible right now.

Renewal Works – launch of Spiritual Life Inventory

January 15th we'll launch inventory. Vestry will get link 9–10 days before that, take it in advance to be sure it's working properly and so that we're familiar with what we're asking others to do. Then it will be live for two weeks. 12 people are committed to being at least 3 of the 4 workshops.

Donna Paye and Felicia DeDominicis are the leaders. Need Vestry to spearhead the inventory participation. Workshops 2 and 3 specifically engage the data from the inventory.

RECTOR'S THOUGHTS

Vestry retreat is Friday, February 2nd – Saturday, February 3rd, again at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield. Convene for dinner at 6:00. Stewardship is a focus for this retreat. Suzanne Culhane, the Director of Stewardship at Christ Church Greenwich will join us Saturday morning to lead us.

Bishop's Visitation with Laura Ahrens is February 11th. She will meet with Vestry after the 10:15 service; there will be reading in advance, we'll bring in lunch, 12-1:30.

The Good Book Club begins Sunday, February 11th – Lenten and Easter program of study. Sequential reading of Luke's Gospel for Lent and Acts for great 50 days of Easter.

Sabbatical Team meets after New Year's to retool the grant. Will make use of some data from the inventory. Planning to resubmit. Deadline is third week of April, but goal is to submit before then. Sabbatical is summer 2019.

We closed in prayer at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Watkin, Parish Clerk

Working in partnership: Button-up New Britain

My name is Max Wilson. I am a Junior in Suffield High School. In November I worked with the St. Mark's Episcopal Church in New Britain for the "Button-Up New Britain" coat drive where Kelly Nauss had helped me reach out to the St. James Episcopal Church and receive plentiful donations of both children and adult winter clothing that was needed in the community. I would like to thank you for allowing me to place one of the collection boxes in your church.



The event took place on November 24, 2017 and was a tremendous success as over 250 coats were collected which were given out to numerous amounts of children, men, and women. The monetary donations we received from the drive went to the "New Year, New Pillow" Drive, where I donated 50 pillows and 50 pairs of socks to the Prudence Crandall Center and 28 pillows to the Friendship Center.

It was a deeply humbling experience to help those who were in such need of basic necessities that many of us take for granted in our everyday lives.

Thank you again for the tremendous help and generosity of you and your parishioners in allowing these events to be such big successes in helping the less fortunate New Britain community.

Attached are some pictures from both of the drives. None of this would have been possible without my dear friend Kelly Nauss.

God bless,
Max Wilson

FEBRUARY 2018

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|--------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 10:30 Eucharist at Touchpoints | 2 10:00 Candlemas Service 5:00 Vestry Retreat 6:30 AA | 3 Vestry Retreat |
| 4 HE 8:00 & 10:15 9:00 First Sunday Breakfast; 10:00 Nursery, Church School 11:30 Coffee Hour Super Bowl Grinder Sale pickup | 5 | 6 7:00 Boy Scouts | 7 HE 10:00 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal | 8 | 9 6:30 AA | 10 |
| 11 HE 8:00 & 10:15 9:00 Adult Form. – Good Book Club; 10:00 Nursery, Church School 10:15 Bishop Laura Ahrens visit 10:30 Amberwoods Ministry 11:30 Coffee Hour | 12 | 13 5:30 Mardi Gras pancake Supper 6:30 Farewell to alleluias | 14  Services at noon & 7 pm 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal | 15 March Epistle submission deadline 9:30 Prep & serve lunch at Friendship Service Center 6:30 Evening Prayer; Hartford Power Squadron 7:00 Vestry | 16 2:00 Chopin Foundation workshops & concert 6:30 AA | 17 |
| 18 HE 8:00 & 10:15 9:00 Adult Form. – Good Book Club; Outreach Ministry meeting 10:00 Nursery, Church School 11:30 Coffee Hour | 19 Parish office is closed in observance of Presidents' Day | 20 | 21 HE 10:00 7:00 Renewal/Works Workshop 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal | 22 6:30 Hartford Power Squadron 7:00 Women of St. James Book Group | 23 6:30 AA | 24 |
| 25 HE 8:00 & 10:15 9:00 Adult Form. – Good Book Club 10:00 Nursery, Church School | 26 | 27 7:00 Boy Scouts | 28 HE 10:00 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal | | | |

View the entire calendar of events at our webpage: www.stjamesfarmington.org upcoming events.

ST. JAMES PARISH

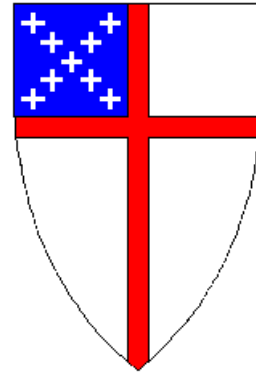
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Farmington, Connecticut 06032

Phone: 860-677-1564

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Website: www.stjamesfarmington.org



MISSION STATEMENT:

*We welcome all to worship and nurture spiritual growth through faith, grace and reason.
We reach out to those in need as a caring community
and live Christ's teaching to love one another.*

| STAFF | | OFFICERS | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| The Rev. George C. Roberts | Rector | Cathie Martin & John Smith, Wardens | | |
| Blake Hansen | Director of Music | EJ Ososki, Treasurer * | | |
| Susan Deming | Parish Administrator | Jerry Hess, Asst. Treasurer * | | |
| Kelly Nauss | Sexton | Jessica Watkin, Parish Clerk * | | |
| Kimberly Tuttle | Nursery Supervisor | | | |
| | | VESTRY | | |
| | | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Bill Raymond | Cathie Martin | Julia Grieco * |
| | | Chris Roach | Ann Monroe-Baillargeon | Rebecca McFarland * |
| | | John Smith | Todd Root | Dona Waugh * |
| | | * To be voted on at Annual Meeting | | |

ST. JAMES PARISH

3 MOUNTAIN ROAD

FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06032

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

