

# Weekly e-Epistle

Saint James' Episcopal Church,  
Mill Creek Hundred  
Wilmington, Delaware

## September 7, 2017

### Memorial Service for the Mother of Daniel Townsend

Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm

A memorial service will be held this Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7 o'clock in the Church for Daniel Townsend's mother, Eleanor Jones Townsend Farmer, age 88, who passed away last week in Princeton, West Virginia. Everyone is invited to come and support Daniel during this time of sorrow. A reception will be held in the Parish House following the service.

### Fall Worship Schedule Resumes this Sunday

On September 10<sup>th</sup> we return to our regular Sunday schedule of services at 8:00 and 10:15am. Nursery Care will again be provided by Kelsey Hall beginning at 9:15am in the Parish House.

### Prayer Team

Members of the prayer team will hold a short prayer service in the church this Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> **at 11:30 am** (focusing on the prayer requests left in the basket in the entrance to the church and other concerns of the parish, community, and world.) Then throughout the month, we will continue collecting prayers at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> service and lifting them up during the week. **All are welcome to participate in this monthly service-usually held on the first Sunday of the month.** For those who are not able to come to church or have an immediate prayer need, we invite you to email Sister BJ Brown at: [sisterbjbrown@gmail.com](mailto:sisterbjbrown@gmail.com)

### September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month !

Dorianne Short, a member of St. James' and an ovarian cancer survivor, in 2009 founded the Delaware Ovarian Cancer Foundation to support ovarian cancer education and research in Delaware. Every September during Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, Dorianne and Bill her husband Bill organize the **'On the Wings of Hope' Teal Ribbon Luncheon and Silent Auction.** This year the event will take place on **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 12:30—4:30pm**, at the **White Clay Creek Country Club** at Delaware Park (same building as The Rail restaurant). Tickets are **\$35 for St. James' members** (reg. \$40) or Buy One/Get One 1/2 off. For more information email: [Luncheon@DEOvarianCancer.org](mailto:Luncheon@DEOvarianCancer.org), call Dorianne at 302-998-6889.

### Looking Ahead

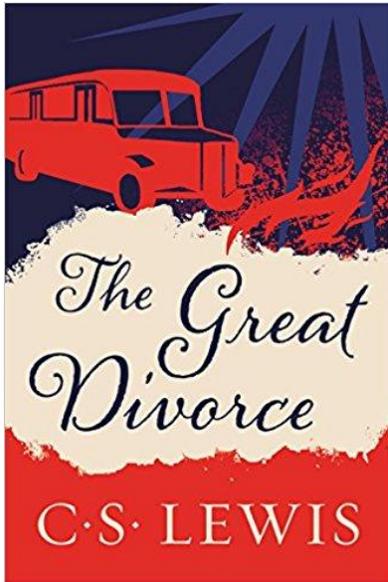
**September 17<sup>th</sup> – "Welcome Back Sunday" Breakfast at 9:00am**

After a summer of travels, vacations, and extra sunlight hours for enjoying God's creation, come gather with us at 9:00am on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, for a breakfast kick-off of our fall programs. Besides food and fellowship we will share information on education and ministry opportunities for 2017-2018.

### Fall Luncheon – Delaware Chapter of the National Cathedral Association

Christ Church Christiana Hundred, 505 East Buck Road, Wilmington, is hosting a Fall Luncheon on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Representatives from the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, will be on hand. **See the attached flyer for details.** RSVPs requested by Sept 24<sup>th</sup>.

## Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> – Join the Rector’s Book Discussion



On Thursday evenings during this past season of Lent, Father Jim offered a book discussion in his home on *A Grief Observed* by C.S. Lewis. In the book Lewis wrestled with his grief following the death of his wife, Joy, and asked honest questions about his faith and beliefs. Many of his questions touched the lives of those who gathered for the discussions, and a desire was expressed to continue our own wrestling with the concepts of heaven and hell.

Beginning on Thursday evening, September 21<sup>st</sup>, and continuing for 4 weeks, Father Jim will host a book discussion on another C. S. Lewis book entitled *The Great Divorce*, which has nothing to do with marriage. It is a fanciful dream journey through which a group of travelers on a bus from the “grey town” explore the wide gap between Hell and Heaven. And how exactly does our earthly existence factor into this? Well, you’ll just have to come and wrestle with this and other questions with the rest of us.

Father Jim has copies of the book available (\$10 each), so contact him and secure one for yourself, and then plan to join him at 7:00pm on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Blessings and Peace,**  
*The Rev. Jim Bimbi*

## A Statement from the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies president on DACA

**We stand with the Dreamers and will do all that we can to support them**

[September 5, 2017 - Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs]

*Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop and Primate Michael B. Curry and President of the House of Deputies the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings have issued the following statement concerning the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).*

Today our hearts are with those known as the Dreamers—those young women and men who were brought to this country as children, who were raised here and whose primary cultural and country identity is American. We believe that these young people are children of God and deserve a chance to live full lives, free from fear of deportation to countries that they may have never known and whose languages they may not speak. As people of faith, our obligation is first to the most vulnerable, especially to children. In this moment, we are called by God to protect Dreamers from being punished for something they had no agency in doing.

Since 2012, individuals who are undocumented and who were brought to the U.S. as children have benefitted from the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Through this program, those eligible have the opportunity to obtain a work permit and can secure protection from deportation. The nearly 800,000 recipients of DACA have proven that when given the opportunity, they succeed and contribute positively to our country. Without protection afforded by DACA or a legislative solution, these young people will live in fear of arrest, detention, and deportation to countries they may not remember. In six months those fears may become reality, so we must use that time wisely to advocate for their protection.

The Episcopal Church supports these undocumented youth as part of our decades-long commitment to walking with immigrants and refugees. Out of that commitment, we call on our nation to live up to its highest ideals and most deeply held values, and we call on Congress to take action to protect these young people and to formulate a comprehensive immigration policy that is moral and consistent and that allows immigrants who want to contribute to this country the chance to do so while keeping our borders secure from those whose business is in drugs, human trafficking or terror. We are committed to working actively toward both the passage of a bipartisan Dream Act by Congress and comprehensive immigration reform, and we will provide resources for Episcopalians who want to participate in this work.

For those of us who follow Jesus Christ, our Christian values are at stake. Humane and loving care for the stranger, the alien, and the foreigner is considered a sacred duty and moral value for those who would follow the way of God. In his parable of the last judgment, Jesus commended those who welcomed the stranger and condemned those who did not (Matthew 25:35 & 25:43). This teaching of Jesus was based on the law of Moses that tells the people of God: "The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God." (Leviticus 19:33-35).

We stand with the Dreamers and will do all that we can to support them while we also work for the kind of immigration reform that truly reflects the best of our spiritual and moral values as people of faith and as citizens of the United States.