



A Letter from St. James

*The Monthly Newsletter of St. James' Episcopal Church
in Mill Creek Hundred, Wilmington, Delaware*

January 2017

Rector's Ramblings ... We Begin a New Year and Season

As I wrote in this space last month, Genia Thomas, our parish Administrative Assistant, had made know her intentions of retiring at the end of 2016. After 14 years of working together it was anyone's guess as to which one of us would be the first to leave. Well, as of January 1st Genia will be gone and you will still be stuck with me. Luckily for you and for me I have been able to hire someone who is willing to step in and carry on the responsibilities that Genia has so ably performed for so many years.

Beginning on Tuesday, January 3rd, Lola Michael Russell will be the voice on the phone and the person who will greet you when you stop into the office. Lola joins us from a career in marketing, museum interpretation, and guest services. Most recently she was Curator of Interpretation and Outreach at Hagley Museum and Library. Prior to that, she was Director of Public Education and Visitor Services at New York's Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine, the largest cathedral in the Anglican Communion and the fourth largest of all Christian denominations. A British citizen, Lola was born in Canterbury, Kent, and grew up in Folkestone on England's south coast. She now lives in North Wilmington with her husband, William, and their son, Thomas, and they are members of Christ Church Christiana Hundred. Lola has expressed that she is looking forward to getting to know the members of the parish and serving the community of St. James' Mill Creek.



And so, the New Year will begin a new season for all of us here at St. James' and a new season for Genia as she takes her leave of the world of work. We wish her well and pray for a full recovery of her husband, Bob, who has been battling health issues for the past three months. May they both find blessings in the year ahead.

Fr. Jim Bimbi

A Note from Genia Thomas, our retiring Administrative Assistant



As I retire I would like to thank the people of St. James' and especially Father Jim for giving me the opportunity to work in such a wonderful, loving environment. When help was needed, there was always someone there to lend a helping hand.

I have made many friends here and have been made to feel a part of this parish family. I will miss those with whom I have had the opportunity to have interaction. I will see you from time to time (bazaar, turkey dinner...) and hope to maintain a relationship with this amazing group of people.

As I begin a new phase of life, I wish you all well and give you my grateful thanks.

Genia Thomas



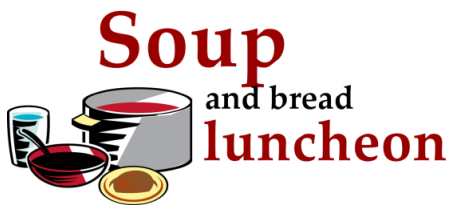
The Unfortunate End to St. James' Sundries Ministry to the women at Baylor Women's Correctional Institution

For many years, St. James' has supported women incarcerated at Delaware's Baylor Women's Correctional Institution (WCI) by providing a monthly box of sundries that would include personal care items like shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, lotion, and soap. These supplies were offered to women who have no money or family to supply these necessary items. In mid-December, Chaplin Benita Earle (Chaplin for WCI) informed us that WCI would no longer accept these gifts from "the outside." Because the December box of sundries was returned to us, Chaplin Earle was glad to hear that those items would be shared with our guests at the Emmanuel Dining Room.

Chaplin Earle extended her thanks and the thanks of the hundreds of women who had their self esteem lifted and appreciated that someone cared that they had these items we take for granted. Many thanks go to those who supported this ministry.

We will work with Chaplin Earle to see what other ways we can continue to minister to the women. In the past we have provided chapel services and donated bibles. Look for more information or let us know if you have any ideas.

Peace, Gwen Gerety Hays and Cindy Fauerbach



PUT JANUARY 29th on your calendar!

Once again the wonderful cooks at St. James' will prepare soups and breads to share. Watch for more information and sign-up sheets in January.

It's always a great time of fellowship & delicious food. There's always plenty to share, so even if you don't cook or don't have time, plan to come and enjoy the fellowship!



God Hears and Answers Prayers

For when two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. (Matthew 18:20)

NOTE: January prayer service will be held January 8th following the 10:15 service.

Normally, on the first Sunday of each month, members of the prayer team hold a short prayer service **in the church** (focusing on the prayer requests left in the basket in the entrance to the church and other concerns of the parish, community, and world.) However, **because the first Sunday of January is New Year's Day, we will hold this service on January 8th following the 10:15 service.** As you would on any Sunday, please leave your prayers in the basket in the entrance to the church on Sunday, January 1st following the one service at 9 am and a member of the prayer team will collect the prayers and they will be lifted up during the week. All are welcome to join us for this service.

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



Altar flowers are a wonderful way to remember a loved one or celebrate an event while beautify the church as we worship! We do not carry over dates from year to year. Please use the enclosed form to reserve the dates that mean the most to you. Altar flowers are \$46 per Sunday (except during Lent when dried arrangements are used and the cost is \$23. Sanctuary candles which represent Christ's continuing presence in our lives as they burn all week are \$10 per week.

Emmanuel Dining Room Ministry

For each month that has a 31st day (seven months a year), St. James' is responsible for the lunch at Emmanuel Dining Room on Walnut Street. In 2016, we provided over 1200 lunches packed with love and good nutrition to our guests and we have many people to thank for making this possible. Many THANKS to all who donated their time, resources, and support of this very important ministry.

And, special thanks goes to those in the Bazaar group who, AGAIN this year, shared their holiday cheer and support of the Emanuel Dining Room ministry by providing donations to cover the cost of the January lunch and some to spare. Our guests will enjoy their favorite meal of lasagna, green beans, fresh fruit, and homemade cookies with milk and have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich to take and share with a friend.

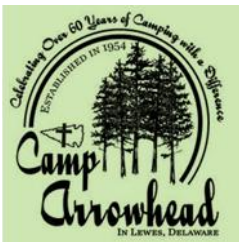
Thank you to **all** who have contributed to providing a warm meal in the cooler months and cool meal in the warmer months and friendly gestures of support and outreach to those in their time of need.

If you would like to share in the fellowship of preparing cookies and making sandwiches for our January 31, 2017 meal, please join us in the St. James' parish hall on Monday, January 30th from 10 to noon.

Again, thank you,

Pat Minor, Gail Coverdale, Ginny Dennis, and Cindy Fauerbach

Questions: call Cindy Fauerbach (302)239-8336 or email: cindyfauerbach@verizon.net



Thinking about Summer Camp?

Information has been received about Camp Arrowhead's 2017 season. There are day and overnight camping opportunities for boys and girls ages 7-16 years old on Rehoboth Bay. Brochures are available on the literature rack in the Parish House. We also have registration forms in the office. Check out the website at www.camparrowhead.net. Walking tours for new campers will be

March 26th and April 23rd from 2-4PM. The annual Work weekend is April 7-9. Call the office or check the camp's website for more information. Financial aid is available.

View from the Road....

thoughts from your Journey Team

Journey

The journey towards oneness with God will mean a growing desire for goodness. A person will become increasingly determined to act with courage and generosity, to serve the common good wisely and energetically, to rejoice in the success or good fortune of others.—Christopher Bryant, SSJE

As we welcome a new year, we take time to reflect on our journey together and the opportunities and challenges God provides. We see the members of the St. James' family striving to act in the way described in the reflection above.

Through our dedication to the various ministries supported by St. James', we have been blessed with many joys in sharing God's bounty with others: in sharing a meal or safe place to sleep with those who have none, in caring for someone who needs to know that others care, or in praying for each other and those we may not even know. St. James' is a family of individuals who listen for God's call and answers.

As you look back on the past year, consider Brother Luke Ditewig's reflection:

God comes to us as a vulnerable human baby to an unlikely couple in an obscure place. And in doing so turns the world upside down. Jesus says: Stick with me even if I am different, confusing, or surprising. I have come, and I am coming to you today with love! Look for me. Listen. I am coming in an unexpected way.

The Journey Team's process is based on **slowing down (from the daily rush)→ praying→ reflecting→ studying →listening for what God wants→ make a plan→ evaluate how things are going and repeat the cycle...**

We ask that you continue with us on this journey and take time to **Slow down→ Pray→ Reflect→ Listen for/to God—make a plan—evaluate how things are going and repeat the cycle...**

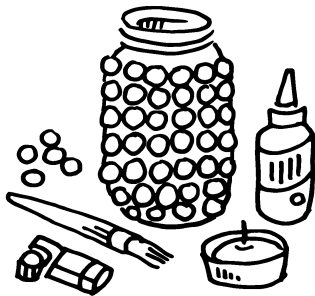
Peace, your Journey Team



The Mission/Outreach Committee would like to give you grateful thanks for your very generous donations for our four Adopt-A-Families. The total given was \$2,185! You are a blessing. Merry Christmas!

MASON JAR nightLight

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:



" _ _ M T H _ L _ G H T _ F

T H _ W _ R L D. W H _ _ V _ R

F _ L L _ W S M _ W _ L L N _ V _ R

W _ L K _ N D _ R K N _ S S."

J _ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV

January Birthdays

2	Michael Smith Elizabeth Chance
3	Frances Kershaw Elizabeth Joynt
6	Emily Hoppenjans
8	Ruth Etheridge Evelyn White
13	Andrew Idell Catherine Pomeroy
14	Mary McCauley Prescott Mason Lichtenstein
15	Annmarie Patterson
16	John Sukeena
19	Nancy Prettyman
20	Wayne McKee Keith St. John
21	Cory Brennan Ryan Cascino
22	Dorothy Loveland
25	Brenden Haywood Elinor Knodel
26	David Winward Kathy Chrisbacher
27	Emma DelleDonne
29	Donna Simpson
31	Karly Cernos Ian Prescott Steve Prescott Bob Meckelnburg



January Anniversaries

- 16 Cynde & Fr. Jim Bimbi
19 Kerri & Matthew Fauerbach



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know. YOU are an important part of our Parish Family and we want to celebrate with you!

January Reception for Bishop Wayne & Holly Wright

Bishop Wright will be retiring at the end of February 2017, and “A Celebration Evening” reception will be held on Thursday, **January 12, 2017**, for the bishop and his wife in honor of their presence among us during their time in the Diocese of Delaware. The reception will be held from 7-9pm at St. David’s Episcopal Church, 2300 Grubb Rd, Wilmington.. If you are planning to go please RSVP by email by January 5th to: **st_davids_day_school@verizon.net**
If you do not have access to the internet you may contact the church office and we will sent along your RSVP.

The January issue of **Delaware Communion** (the diocesan newspaper) is available in the Parish House.

St. James' Episcopal Church
2106 St. James' Church Road
Wilmington, DE 19808

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Rector: The Rev. James M. Bimbi
Senior Warden: David Niehaus
Junior Warden: Carolyn Joynt

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Website: stjamesmillcreek.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Tuesday – Thursday

Closed Monday and Friday

Service Times

Sunday –

8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:15am Family Worship

Wednesday

9:30am Holy Eucharist

10:15am Bible Study



January 1, 2017

One Service

9:00AM

Christmas Lessons &
Carols



January 12, 2017

7:00 PM Farewell dessert reception for
Bishop & Mrs. Wright at St. David's



January 29th

11:30AM