



A Letter from St. James

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

April 2017

RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS . . . Preparing to Welcome the Christ

A Celtic Saying On Hospitality

We saw a stranger yesterday.

*We put food in the eating place,
drink in the drinking place, and
music in the listening place.*

*And with the sacred name of the
trine GOD*

*He blessed us and our house,
our cattle and our dear ones.*

As the lark says in her song:

Often, often, often goes the

CHRIST

in the stranger's guise.

The season of Lent is a time of preparation for Christians. It's not just a 'count down' to Easter. It is a time of prayerful examination of our assumptions about ourselves and the lives we are living. It is a time to expand our vision. It is an opportunity to become more open to the transforming grace of Christ.

Crucifixion and Resurrection are not opposite realities, but complementary aspects of the one reality that God works through all things. We often must see or experience the dark things before God's light of new possibilities can shine through and illuminate our minds, our hearts, and our actions towards others.

If Christmas and the birth of Jesus by Mary teaches us that we are an incarnational people—that is, that God works in and through humanity in an intimate way—then Easter promises us that God is also present in and redeems the suffering of humanity in a personal way. And God, through Christ and the Holy Spirit, does not do it alone.

My recent trip to Nicaragua brought me face-to-face with Christ in some of the poorest of the poor in the Western hemisphere. Our parish's involvement in Family Promise brings many of us in contact with moms and dads and children who are experiencing homelessness right in our own backyard. May the promise of the Resurrection bring us not only new life, but prepare us to welcome Christ in the stranger – whenever and wherever He might appear to us.

Fr. Jim Bimbi

April 2nd Cathedral Choir School Returns to St. James'

In 2014 and 2015, we were blessed on Christmas Eve with the presence and musical gifts of the Cathedral Choir School. Although they could not be with us at Christmastime in 2016, they will be joining us on **Sunday, April 2nd, at the 10:15am service**. Under the motto of “Harmonizing Life & Learning”, their stated mission is:

The Choir School of Delaware is a comprehensive, multifaceted, after-school program that has a strong legacy of serving and engaging Wilmington’s youth and families through music and mentoring. Historically known as the Cathedral Choir School of Delaware, we provide professional musical training, leadership and language skills, academic support, and college-bound mentoring in an intergenerational environment for youth in Wilmington, Delaware and surrounding regions.

The Choir of St. James’ is generously planning a special hospitality reception to take place following the 10:15am service. Come join us for worship and be lifted up by the young voices of the dedicated youth of the Cathedral Choir School.

Mill Creek Ministerium—Wednesday Lenten Program

The Wednesday noon Lenten Worship & Soup Luncheons continue into April at the new St. Philip’s Lutheran Church at 5320 Limestone Road. The theme for the six-week program beginning on March 8th is “*The Book of Psalms—Ancient songs of Prayer & Praise for Today.*” The final three weeks are:

- March 29th The Rev. Lance Martin of St. John the Beloved Catholic
- April 5th The Rev. Thomas Edwards of St. Mark’s United Methodist
- April 12th The Rev. James M. Bimbi of St. James’ Episcopal Mill Creek

April 15th – Easter Egg Hunt & Hot Dog Lunch

For more than a dozen years, at 11:00am on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Sunday) St. James’ has held an Easter Egg Hunt for the Neighborhood followed by a Free Hot Dog Lunch. It is always a well attended (and somewhat wild) event! It can’t be done without the donations so generously provided by the members and friends of the parish. The youth are asking for plastic eggs and individually wrapped candies that will fit into the eggs. They usually assemble between 1,500—2,000 eggs that they hide and scatter throughout the churchyard. Sign-up sheets for items needed for the Hot Dog Lunch will be posted in the Parish House. And if anyone *habla Español*, we could use your assistance during the event.

Emmanuel Dining Room Ministry-- UPDATE

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. Over the past year (and years) many of you have generously donated your time, resources, and support of this very important ministry. THANK YOU!

While April is a month when we do not serve, we wanted to let you know that your generosity provided a wonderful second lunch for 2017 on March 31st.

We were and still are in an excellent position with our funding (Thanks to those who have contributed financial support and careful shopping!!) We offered another favorite meal of meatball subs, fresh fruit, chips, and homemade cookies and also providing a peanut butter and jelly sandwich as an addition to their meal and/or for our guests to take with them for another meal/snack. AND, we were blessed to do this without asking for your donations of food items or money. As always, the fellowship and hard work of "making" and "serving" the meals was a blessing to many.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for Tuesday, MAY 30th (10 am to noon) and come share in the fellowship of preparing cookies and making sandwiches in the St. James' kitchen. Our next lunch will be served on Wednesday, May 31st. Please let us know if you'd like to join in the making or serving. We look forward to working together.

Again, thank you, Pat Minor, Gail Coverdale, Ginny Dennis, and Cindy Fauerbach

Questions, call Cindy Fauerbach 302-239-8336 or cindyfauerbach@verizon.net

'Walk-About' Information for Bishop Candidates

by The Rev. David Andrews & Sue Taber, co-chairs, Transition Committee

As we move closer to the election of the 11th Bishop of the Diocese of Delaware, there will be three "Walk-About" sessions in the diocese with the candidates – one in each county. The dates/locations for the sessions are listed below. The events will all be in the evening, and starting times will be announced closer to the dates.

- *Wednesday, June 28, 2017: Christ Church Christiana Hundred, Greenville*
- *Thursday, June 29, 2017: St. Peter's, Lewes*
- *Friday, June 30, 2017: Christ Church, Dover.*

(continued on next page)

What is a Walk-About?

The Walk-About sessions are visits that provide a way to introduce the candidates for bishop to the people of the diocese. This is also an opportunity for the candidates to see a sample of the churches and ministries that are representative of the diocese.

The Walk-About sessions are a part of the discernment process in which people of the diocese are asked to listen and prayerfully consider who it is that God is calling to be our next bishop. This is not intended to be a time to discuss issues but rather a part of the discernment process for both those attending and the candidates.

Who should attend?

All those who will be voting during the Special Convention to elect the new bishop should plan on attending one of the Walk-About sessions. Other parishioners and non-voting clergy are certainly invited and encouraged to attend. This is your opportunity to hear and meet the candidates before the Special Convention on July 15th to elect our next bishop.

Claudia White Memorial Bingo Night

You and your friends are invited to The Ninth Annual Claudia White Memorial Bingo, Monday, April 24, 2017, 7:00 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 2106 St. James Church Road. A \$10.00 donation is requested to go toward the Claudia White Memorial Fund*.

There will be Winner Prizes...Door Prizes...50/50 Drawing...Refreshments

R.S.V.P. Nancy Patterson, 239-7649 by Monday, April 17, 2017

In addition to the \$10.00 donation, we request that you bring nonperishable food items.

The food items will be donated to a local food bank.

** Claudia White was Co-Chair of the St. James' Bazaar for several years. She also organized the first Bingo Night. Claudia loved organizing and attending social events, especially if it was a fund raiser. After Claudia passed away in 2008 the Bazaar Ladies decided to continue Bingo Night in her memory.*

All proceeds are donated to the St. James' Claudia White Memorial Fund. Repairs and renovations to the Parish House were very close to Claudia's heart and the money raised is used to maintain the Parish House.

The St. James Bazaar Ladies

Looking Ahead – Mark Your Calendars

April 2nd – Fifth Sunday of Lent – Cathedral Choir School adds their musical talents to the 10:15am service.

April 9th – Palm/Passion Sunday – Focus of 8:00am service is the Passion of Jesus; the 10:15am service will recall the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

April 13th – Maundy Thursday – 7:30pm service recalling the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples. Prayer vigil before the Altar of Repose from 8:30pm-Midnight.

April 14th – Good Friday – 9:30am Good Friday Liturgy. Ecumenical service at 12 noon with the Churches of the Mill Creek Ministerium with preaching on the Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross.

April 15th – Holy Saturday – 9:00am Liturgy for Holy Saturday, and Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00am.

April 16th – Easter Sunday – Joyful services of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ at 8:00am & 10:15am.

April 29th – Pilgrimage to the National Cathedral in Washington, DC – Sponsored by the Delaware Chapter of the National Cathedral Association. Bus Trip costs \$75 (optional \$11 for lunch). Leaves 8:00am from Christ Church Christiana Hundred and arrives back at 7:30pm. See the flyer on the bulletin board at the Parish House or call the church office for information. **RSVP's due April 3rd.**

April 30th – The 3rd Sunday of Easter – ONE SERVICE @ 9:00am, followed by brunch and the Annual Parish Meeting.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 st	Andrew Taylor
2 nd	Ariana Niehaus
	Bill Short
3 rd	Tanner Haywood
4 th	Joanna McCauley
5 th	Joan Hontz
	Joan Huhn
7 th	Vincent Salerno
	Darren Cormier
8 th	Shirley Alexander
	Bruce Vrana
9 th	Corrine Metcalfe
11 th	Keiran Haywood
12 th	Emily Malusa
	Mia Taylor
13 th	Sean Joynt
14 th	Carolyn Eldridge
15 th	Chase Haywood
16 th	Sam Malusa
	Haley Short
17 th	Justin McGee
21 st	Darren Mooney
	Julia Pomeroy
22 nd	Kaitlyn August
23 rd	Sandy Cornelia
24 th	Debra Nuss
26 th	Sarah Hoppenjans
27 th	Raymond Logue

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

16 th	Esther & James Insinga
17 th	Victoria & Arthur Loveless
17 th	Bonnie & David Metcalfe
20 th	Marsha & John Wilson IV
25 th	Sue & Dan Strecker
30 th	Susan & Keith St. John
30 th	Jeff & Roxanne Swift

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.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 30th

ONE SERVICE at 9:00AM

With Brunch & Meeting Afterwards

Have an Idea for a Newsletter article?

Is there something you would like us to write about or publicize?

Let us know! Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is **April 18th**.



Easter Flower Memorials



Please PRINT the information below, then place this form and your donation in an envelope and drop it in the offering plate by Sunday, April 9th.

Envelopes may also be mailed to St. James Church, 2106 St. James Church Rd, Wilmington, DE 19808, to be received **no-later-than Friday, April 7th**.

Given in Memory of: _____

Given in Thanksgiving for: _____

Given by: _____

_____ Phone: (_____) _____

Prayer Team Ministry

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

On Sunday, April 9th members of the prayer team will hold a short prayer service in the church **following the second service** (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 2nd 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

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

Address Service Requested

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Permit # 36
Wilmington, DE

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

Office Contacts
Phone: 302-994-1584
Email: office@stjamesmillcreek.comcastbiz.net

Office Hours: Tues-Wed-Thu—9am—2 pm
Closed Monday and Friday

Sunday Service Times

8:00am Holy Eucharist
9:15am Nursery & Christian Education
10:15am Family Worship

Wednesday

9:30am Holy Eucharist
10:15am Bible Study



Website:

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