

A Letter from St. James

Mill Creek Hundred

April 2016

Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for April 17th



One Worship Service at 9:00am

Vestry provided Brunch at 10:15am.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 10:45 and conclude by 12 noon.

Nursery care will be available for the church service and during the annual meeting.

**Big
Thank
You!**

Thank you, Thank you!! We thank everyone for the amazing and generous response for the March 31st Emmanuel Dining Room lunch.

- Fourteen enthusiastic parishioners gathered in the Parish Hall on Wednesday March 30th to prepare dozens and dozens of cookies, make 100 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and assemble over 300 cheese sandwiches (to be grilled at the Emmanuel Dining Room.)
- These items along with 80 pounds of bananas, 200 bags of potato chips, 10 gallons of milk, and 95 cans of tomato soup came together to make a delicious grilled cheese lunch that was cooked and served with love by seven parishioners on Thursday the 31st. We served 186 lunches!
- And, we shared an EXTRA BLESSING! As it turned out, we had dozens of extra hotdog rolls from Saturday's Easter Egg hotdog lunch. The staff and guests at the Emmanuel Dining Room were especially grateful to have this extra gift because they had no bread delivery for their March 30th lunch.
- Our next lunch will be Tuesday, May 31st and we'll be preparing the meal on Monday, May 30th (Memorial Day.) We hope you'll consider joining us in any way you can!
- The need is great and those we serve are thankful!

Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community, Saturday, June 4th, 2016. Bellevue State Park.

Walk with us, the “St James Holy Strollers”, to prevent and end homelessness for families! *This year, we are raising funds for our **Pathway to Career Program** for more sustainable careers for our families. This is a fun day! To donate and or join our team go to: <http://bit.ly/1P0VeeU> and locate our team the “St James Holy Strollers”. Our goal is to raise \$2000.00. We need your help! Registrants raising at least \$30 get a free T-shirt.*

Location: Bellevue State Park **Date:** Saturday, June 4th

Time: Registration begins 7:45am. **Walk:** 5K begins at 9am; 1 Mile at 9:15am

Join in the fun with pre-walk activities and post-walk raffle. Bring the whole family including dog! The walk is sponsored by Highmark of Delaware.

Contact: Susan Winward for more information

NEWS FROM THE JOURNEY TEAM

A view from the road.....

September seems a long time ago! You may recall the JOURNEY TEAM came before the congregation and asked:

- *Who is God calling us to become as a community of faith?*
- *Where is Christ's presence active among us?*
- *Why do we do what we do?*
- *Where is the Holy Spirit leading us?*

Over the next few months you shared your thoughts, suggestions, and concerns. We have reviewed your heartfelt responses in the surveys and additional parishioner feedback and continue to develop our path forward.

We attended the March vestry meeting and shared the following:

- During our discussion with our parish youth, a mission statement came forward. ***“MAKE IT YOUR DAILY MISSION TO MAKE SOMEONE MORE WHOLE”*** And, based on the feedback from the congregation, a St. James’ Dream statement was developed. ***“We are a growing, mission centered congregation intentionally focused on sharing, internally and externally, the gifts and love God has given us. We are a parish family of all ages where each member is valued, respected, and encouraged to develop and share his/her talents. Our members and clergy joyfully work together and communicate openly, empowering our spirits to be God’s heart and hands in the world”***

- **How Do We Move Forward?**

During the Team's discussions, we realized the Vestry no longer had an official/formalized connection with the various Ministries/Committees. We feel this connection is essential to helping strengthen, reestablish, reenergize, and sustain our church and its ministries. And, at the March Vestry meeting, the Journey Team made the following recommendation to the Vestry:

Based on the feedback from the congregation and our work to date, the Journey Team recommended reestablishing a more formal connection between the Vestry and ministries/committees of St. James by the following:

1. **Identify which ministries/committees support the mission and dream for St. James**
2. **Determine which ministry/committees are active, need to be re-activated, need to be established or eliminated**
3. **Identify Vestry Shepherds to help support, strengthen and sustain our ministries/committees**
4. **Review and confirm a viable ongoing structure for each ministry/committee**

To support this initiative and strengthen communication, the Journey Team will continue working with and supporting the Vestry Shepherds and ministry leaders. At the annual meeting, we will share HOW YOU can be a part of this important process.

Please note, while the financial health of St. James was a reoccurring concern expressed in your feedback and we acknowledge our obligation to be responsible stewards of God's gifts, our parish by-laws direct that responsibility to the Vestry. The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) will continue to support the Vestry regarding financial matters. And, the Journey Team has and will continue to offer help, support, thoughts, and suggestions to the Vestry but will not actively participate in the management of our financial resources.

We are excited to join together for worship, fellowship, and discussion at the Annual Meeting on April 17th. We will celebrate our legacy and share how we can continue working together to support and strengthen the many ministries and mission of St. James.

Fondly,

Your Journey Team

Sister B.J. Brown, Cindy Fauerbach, Val Hall, Deb Nuss, Nancy Patterson,

Steve Prescott, Jennie Vrana, and Father Jim

Make it your daily mission to make someone more whole.

From your Prayer team...



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

- On the first Sunday of each month (April 3rd is our next prayer service), 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.) Then throughout the month, we continue collecting prayers at the end of the 2nd service and lifting them up during the week. All are welcome.
- 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



*You and your friends
are invited to*

*The eighth Annual Claudia White Memorial Bingo
Monday, April 18, 2016, 7:00 p.m.*

*St. James Episcopal Church Parish Hall
2106 St. James Church Road, Wilmington, DE 19808*

*A \$10.00 donation is requested to go toward the
Claudia White Memorial Fund*

*Winner Prizes...Door Prizes...50/50 Drawing...Refreshments
R.S.V.P. Nancy Patterson, 239-7649, by Monday, April 11, 2016*

*In addition to the \$10.00 donation, we request that you bring
nonperishable food items. These will be donated to a local food bank.*

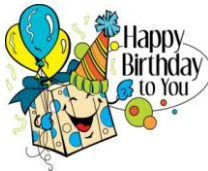


We would like to recognize our graduates and share this accomplishment with their parish family in an upcoming edition of this newsletter.

If you have someone in your family graduating from high school or college this year, please provide us with a picture and short write-up about their graduation, accomplishments, and future plans. Please submit a photo and information to office@stjamesmillcreek.comcastbiz.net or drop them at the office. Photos will be scanned and returned to you.

April Birthdays

- 1st Andrew Taylor
- 2nd Ariana Niehaus
Bill Short
- 3rd Tanner Haywood
- 4th Joanna McCauley
- 5th Joan Hontz
Joan Huhn
- 7th Vincent Salerno
Darren Cormier
- 8th Shirley Alexander
Bruce Vrana
- 9th Corrine Metcalfe
- 11th Keiran Haywood
- 12th Mia Taylor
- 13th Sean Joynt
- 14th Carolyn Eldridge
- 15th Chase Haywood
- 16th Haley Short
- 17th Justin McGee
- 21st Darren Mooney
Julia Pomeroy
- 22nd Kaitlyn August
- 23rd Sandy Cornelia
- 24th Debra Nuss
- 26th Sarah Hoppenjans
- 27th Raymond Logue
- 30th Andrew McCracken



April Anniversaries

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



If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know. **You** are an important part of our church family.



*A Letter from St. James'
April 2016*

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

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Rector: The Rev. James M. Bimbi
Senior Warden: Debra Nuss
Junior Warden: John Handlin

Office Contacts

Phone: 302-994-1584 / Fax: 302-994-3778
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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 –

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
9:15am Nursery & Christian Education
for all ages.
10:15am Family Worship

Wednesday

9:30am Holy Eucharist
10:15am Bible Study
6:30pm Holy Eucharist – Contemplative
7:15pm Adult Study



***April 17th –
Following a combined church
service at 9AM
(there is only one service today)
The vestry will be providing a
brunch.***