

**A Letter from St. James’**

The Newsletter of St. James’’ Episcopal Church

in Mill Creek Hundred, Wilmington, Delaware

**February 2019**

June 2012

***Rector’s Ramblings . . . “a time to mourn and a time to dance”***

As I was about to write this column, I received word that my aunt Dorothy had died in her sleep at the age of 103 years old. Dorothy, along with my mother Alice and three other sisters, ran a school for dance during the Great Depression of the 1930s. In addition to doing this in the afternoon following the school day, they also performed as The Five Ames Sisters in clubs around the New York City area, and during school vacations from Canada down to Washington, D.C. Their act combined dancing, singing, and acrobatics.

Their performing days together continued into their young adulthoods before going their separate ways to get married, start careers, or enter military service. They always, however, to the day each of them died, saw themselves as dancers. (Some of you will recall that I made everyone get up and dance in church at my mother’s funeral – a fitting tribute to her and her sisters’ spirits.) I can remember family reunions where there was much laughter – and a whole lot of dancing. It was a joy to see them all together, although there was that one unnerving occasion in the late 1970s when they decided to form a human pyramid, and we young folk were certain that we were going to have to call for the paramedics!

Dancing is indeed a sign of joy, and in the Bible the people of God found many occasions on which to express themselves in this way. To dance is to be willing to open yourself up to experiencing life with movement, creativity, and moments putting everything else aside. As a child, I’m certain with my mother’s urging, I took lessons in tap dancing and then ballroom dancing. Actually, it didn’t take much effort on her part to get me started for I think I inherited her love of song and dance and the performing arts.

The Five Ames Sisters

Dorothy, Alice, Marjorie, Mary Eloise, and Barbara

As I move closer to retirement, one of the images that I will carry with me is that of dancing my way towards things that bring me joy, wherever they may be found.

Blessings, Fr. Jim Bimbi

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:   
 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance. . .*

Ecclesiastes 3:1,4

**Confirmation Classes in Preparation for Bishop's visit on April 7**

Confirmation is a sacrament of the church that is offered to support a maturing Christian faith and life. While there is no minimum age, those studying to be confirmed should possess the capacity to enter into a period of learning and reflection about God, the Bible, the faith of the Church, and Christian history, including the origins of the Episcopal Church and its traditions. **For more information, contact Fr. Jim as soon as possible.** Class times and location will be determined after consultation with participants.

**Adopt-a-Family 2018 Wrap-Up**

Thank you for your loving generosity to our two needy families.  You donated $2,680!!  Of which, the St. James’ Youth Group donated over $200. The Grandmother with 5 grandkids was given $1,000, and the Dad with 6 children was given $1,150.  We gave $530 to help other families who needed to be sponsored.  A parishioner also donated movie tickets to treat our families to a fun outing. Heartfelt thanks for once again being Christmas angels!

Mission/Outreach Committee

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

**On Sunday, February 3rd,** members of the prayer team will hold a short prayer service in the church **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 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**](mailto:sisterbjbrown@gmail.com)

**flowr37c.tifReserve your dates for 2019**

We do not carry over dates for memorials from year to year. Placing flowers on the altar and or supplying the sanctuary candle for the week are wonderful ways of remembering our loved ones who have passed or celebrating important events in our lives.

Call the office and let us know the dates you would like to reserve in 2018! The cost of Altar Flowers for a week is $46. During Lent we use dried arrangements and the cost is $23. The cost of the Sanctuary Candle is $10 for the week.

**Parish Life Committee Meeting on Sunday, February 10**

The Parish Life Committee, which helps put on various events throughout the year such as the Soup & Bread Luncheon, baptism receptions, the Welcome Back Sunday, and the Bishop’s Reception, will meet in the Parish House Lounge after the 10:15am service.

**New members are always welcome!**

## Bazaar Group Reconvenes in February

# Weather Permitting, the Bazaar Ladies will be back February 12th.

# **During their winter break they were busy finding new creations to make and are anxious to start making them for the 2018 Bazaar. The ladies meet every Tuesday morning from 9:00 – 11:30.**

# *The dates for the 2019 Bazaar are:*

# Friday, November 1st & Saturday, November 2nd – Be sure to mark your calendars.

# **Nancy Patterson and Shirley Alexander are the co-chairs again this year.**

# ***Items Needed:*** We can always use the following items: Corks, Buttons, Yarn, and Seashells

****All items can be left outside the Bazaar Room at the bottom of the stairs in the Parish House.

Remember to save your Zingo receipts. Zingo’s reimburses us 1% of the total receipts we submit to them. We average about $130 yearly from Zingo’s. The funds are used to purchase supplies for the projects the ladies make. There is a container marked “Zingo’s Receipts” in the foyer closet of the Parish House.

**Thank you for your continued support!**

**SHROVE TUESDAY and Mardi Gras Dinner Party!**

**Tuesday, March 5th at 6:00pm in the *St. James’ Parish Hall***



**and/or**

**FOOD** Shrimp & Grits, Jambalaya, and Bread Pudding

Pancakes and Scrapple, too! So many great options or enjoy a sampling of each! Meal hosted by St. James’ Youth, Youth Leaders, and Sam White.

**FUN** Dixieland jazz, Rector’s Trivia, and Beads! Beads! Beads!

**Tickets go on sale February 10th (after church services or call Parish Office)**

**$10 adult ~ $5 child’s plate (9 & under) Advance ticket sales help with food planning and ensure you’ll be able to enjoy this annual event!**

**Bring us your Palms**

No, we’re not looking for a show of hands but rather the blessed palms from last year’s Palm Sunday services. Following tradition, the dried palms will be burned and the ashes used for this year’s Ash Wednesday services.

Please bring any palms **by Sunday, March 3rd** (cut up in short pieces would be helpful) and put them in the basket in the entryway of the church.

**March 6th - Three Ash Wednesday Services to be Offered**

**Morning Services – 7:00am & 9:30am**

Bible Study – 10:30am

**Evening Service – 7:30pm**

All Worship Services will be from The Book of Common Prayer with the traditional Invitation to a Holy Lent, Litany of Penitence, Imposition of Ashes, and celebration of the Holy Eucharist

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

**Volunteer Sunday Morning Nursery Attendants**

We are in need of help in our Sunday morning nursery. If you are interested in volunteering to support your church family in this vital way, please contact **Carolyn Joynt** at 302-438-3224.

**Ushers for 8:00 a.m. Sunday Services**

Our usher corp for the early morning service has dwindled due to people moving away or needing to attend to other needs. We could really use a few new members. The alternative is that adjustments will have to be made in how people are greeted and assisted during the service. Please talk to Fr. Jim or contact the church office.

**Hospitality**

The Parish Life Committee is having a meeting on Sunday, February 10th in the Lounge after the 10:15 a.m. service. New members are always welcome! The Committee helps put on various events throughout the year such as the Soup & Bread Luncheon, baptism receptions, Welcome Back Sunday, and the Bishop’s Reception.

**As there was no January newsletter, we belatedly acknowledge our folks with January birthdays and anniversaries!**

**January Birthdays January Anniversaries**

1. Jonathan Llaca

Sebastian Llaca

Richard Toplos

2 Elizabeth Chance 16 Cynde & Jim Bimbi

Michael Smith 19 Kerri & Matthew Fauerbach

3 Elizabeth Joynt

Frances Kershaw

Lynn Morgan

6Emily Hoppenjans

8 Ruth Etheridge

Evelyn White

13 Andrew Idell

 Catherine Pomeroy

14 Jeremiah Clark

Mary McCauley Prescott

Mason Lichtenstein

Peyton Sanders

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

Ryder Kauffman

Ian Prescott

Steve Prescott

Bob Meckelnburg

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

1st Maddy Burns

**FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

19th Barbara & John Bowser

2nd Joan Jennings

5th Robin Brennan

6th Elinor Tuhy

8th Carolyn Mansk

9th Helen Balchan

Paul Pomeroy IV

13th Edward Loveland

***Thinking about Summer Camp?***

Information has been received about Camp Arrowhead’s 2019 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](http://www.camparrowhead.net). Call the office or check the camp’s website for more information. Financial aid is available.

14th Allyson Heinold

Amy Taylor

16th Aurora Taylor

Deb Grello

17th Debbie Dunford

Amy Haywood

Gail Zimmerman

18th Evelyn Kyritsis

Wendy Manthorpe

19th Kandice Dill

21st David Cernos, Jr.

23rd Liz Lichtenstein

Shannon Dill

Jason Rose

24th Stephanie Adams

**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 **March 14th.**

25th Ben Cook III

27th David Metcalfe Jr.

28th Thomas McCauley

29th Wilma Toulson

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**Please remove any Christmas decorations that you would like to keep no later than February 14th. After that date they will be discarded.**