



# *A Letter from St. James*

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

*July-August, 2018*

## ***Rector's Ramblings . . . El Dia de la Fiesta de Santiago Apóstol \****

### **July 22<sup>nd</sup> — Celebrating Saint James the Apostle**

The patron saint of our parish, James the Apostle, is remembered by Roman Catholic, Anglican (Episcopal), and Lutheran churches with a Feast Day every July 25<sup>th</sup>. This year that date falls on a Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, but at St. James' Mill Creek we will be observing this year's feast day on **Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Following the second service, which is held at 9:30am during summer months, everyone is invited to gather for a picnic on the church grounds. Fried chicken, sub sandwiches, and drink will be provided. If you can, bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share with others.

Two of the symbols used for Saint James the Apostle are a sword and a seashell. Last year I invited people to bring a seashell or two as we contemplated the various meanings of sea shells in Christian symbolism and art. This year I thought about having people bring swords (JUST KIDDING), but settled instead on asking that people think about and come prepared on July 22<sup>nd</sup> to write down short answers to the follow three questions:

- 1) When it was that you first came to St. James Mill Creek?
- 2) Who brought you here and/or how did you find this parish?
- 3) Why did you stay?

You might think of these questions in terms of a pilgrimage: when did it begin, who were your traveling companions, and what did you find for yourself at the destination? So plan to come on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and share your journey with your fellow pilgrims.

*Blessings, Fr. Jim Bimbi*

**\* The Feast Day of Saint James the Apostle** – So why the Spanish for the title of this article? Saint James the Apostle, also known as James the Greater, is the patron saint of Spain and religious pilgrims. The Way of Saint James, 'Camino de Santiago', is a pilgrim route that has been traveled since the 9<sup>th</sup> century, ending at the Cathedral of Saint James of Compostela, where legend has it that the remains of James are buried.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

### Prayer Team – Aug 5<sup>th</sup>

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

**On Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>** 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 those in our parish family, 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)

### Emmanuel Dining Room Ministry

**Our summer lunch dates are July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Menu: tuna subs, salad, fruit, chips, milk, and dessert**

Thanks to your ongoing generosity and support, we are grateful that there is no need to ask for donations for the: 1200 ounces of tuna, 10 large containers of mayo, 10 jars of relish, 10 jars of dejon mustard, 400 sub rolls, 4 5 pound bags of shredded lettuce and 30 pounds of tomatoes, 400 bags of chips, 160 pounds of bananas, 800 cookies, 34 loaves of bread, 20 jars of peanut butter and 30 jars of jam, and 10 gallons of milk! Those we serve at Emmanuel Dining Room thank you, again for your generosity!

**Food preparation: Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to about 11 am**

We'd love to have your help with the food preparation in the Parish Hall kitchen making tuna salad, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and baking cookies.

**Serving lunch: Tuesday, July 31 and Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup>**

If you are interested and/or available to help serve, we will be at the Emmanuel Dining Room East, 226 North Walnut St, Wilmington and serve from 11:30 am - 1 pm please talk with Pat or Cindy.

We hope you will join us for some or all of these opportunities for fellowship and outreach to those in need. If you have questions or are able to join us, please **contact Pat Minor 302-738-3753 or Cindy Fauerbach 301-584-8053.**

MANY thanks, Pat, Ginny Dennis, Gail Coverdale, and Cindy

## Family Promise at St. James' – Next Host Week begins Aug 12<sup>th</sup>

St. James' is proudly providing hospitality to families experiencing homelessness in our very own community. We have committed to offering our parish house to provide meals, food and sleeping areas to families for three separate weeks each year.

Our next and final host week for 2018 will begin on August 12<sup>th</sup>, so be looking for the sign-up sheets at church. If you would like to learn more about how you can serve as a volunteer, please speak with Val Brunson, Jennifer Idell, Dave Perry, Nancy Prettyman, or Eileen Marvel. Thank you from your St. James' Coordinators!

## Summary of Vestry Business, Actions & Reports – May & June

### Damage during storm of May 13<sup>th</sup>

An electrical power surge, most probably caused by lightning, caused damage in the Parish House to the fire alarm system, the internet modem, the wireless router, and the photocopier/printer. Luckily no damage was experienced by the office computers. Father Jim was busy for a few days dealing with the technician from the alarm company, our IT contractor, and the repairman from the copier company. The damage occurred even though all components were connected to surge protectors. The question had been raised whether we might be able to secure surge protection for the entire building from Delmarva, which they can provide for residences, but they do not support surge protection for commercial properties.

### Cemetery Committee

There has been no active leadership in recent years of the Cemetery Committee which had overseen the upkeep of the property around the outside of the church (George Shogan takes care of the records for the gravesites but is not responsible for the physical maintenance of the grounds). The Cemetery Committee was always a part of the larger Property Committee, and with the reemergence of participation on the Property Committee it was decided by its members to assume a more direct oversight of the cemetery. Carolyn Mack has agreed to take the lead on this ministry. Dick Prettyman has a copy of the old Cemetery Rules and Regulations and an Organizational Chart, which he will provide to John Handlin.

### Mission/Outreach

Thanks to the donations from the parish, the Youth Group has assembled a large number of Blessing Bags that parishioners can help distribute to the homeless and those in need. The bags contain bottles of water, nonperishable food, and personal care items.

## Financial Matters

Budget finances for the year 2018 are projected to be on the negative side with pledging from the congregation down from the previous year. There are ten fewer pledges than in 2017. As of the end of April, the projected year-end deficit was \$17,000+. The actual year-to-date deficit as of the end of May was \$12,700.

## Capital Campaign

The goal of the Capital Campaign has been to raise \$300,000 by the end of 2018. If that goal is reached, the Diocese of Delaware will kick in an additional \$50,000. As of June 2018, \$271,099.03 had been received, with \$13,138 in outstanding pledges yet to be received. If all pledges are fulfilled, we will be left to raise \$15,762.97 by December 31, 2018, in order to meet our goal.

## Worship

The Sunday summer worship schedule began on June 3, 2018. The 1<sup>st</sup> service will continue to be held at 8:00am. The 2<sup>nd</sup> service moves up earlier with a 9:30am start time. Following the 2<sup>nd</sup> service the hospitality time, Lemonade-in-the-Circle, will be held outside in front of the Church. The summer schedule will continue through September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Printed Copies of the Newsletter

In the May edition of the parish newsletter, *A Letter from Saint James*, Father Jim proposed that consideration be given to discontinue the mass printing and mailing of the newsletter. The reason for this was a combination of matters including the availability of paid staff time, the cost of production and mailing, and the growing use of electronic communications. In addition, most announcements are included in the weekly online e-Epistle and printed and/or verbally announced at Sunday services, often multiple times, and information on special events, e.g., Christmas and Easter services, and the Bazaar and Turkey Dinner, is also distributed by special individual mailings.

Feedback from some members of the congregation expressed concern about the newsletter being discontinued as they feel it is their primary source of information about St. James. Others don't use email or subscribed to an internet service. As an alternative to discontinuing the newsletter, it was suggested that perhaps it might be sent out less frequently. Another option would be to mail it to households that request it and send it electronically to the rest.

## Church Roof

- Four contractors were contacted requesting a bid on the repairs to the trusses, which need to be done in order to stabilize the structure before the installation of the new roof.
  - O'Connor Construction was too busy.
  - Balicki was not interested.
  - Ric Ramey is not interested at this time. He would require a floor in the attic and better ventilation.
  - A.E. Quesenberry Carpentry submitted the only proposal:
- The proposal by A.E. Quesenberry Carpentry consisted of the following:
  - Furnish and install peg and mortise truss modification as outlined in Orndorf evaluation dated March 23, 2018.
    1. Provide all equipment needed to access work area.
    2. Excludes any hidden damage repair not reported by the evaluation.
  - Furnish and install horizontal member modification as outlined in above document.
    1. Excludes any hidden damage repair not reported by evaluation.
  - Provide labor to clean debris from arched ceiling and dispose of same.
  - Customer responsible for any plaster damage due to construction vibrations and assembly.
  - Clean up and remove all debris.
  - All work to be completed in a professional workman like order for the sum of \$20,360.00.
- Fr. Jim applied for and received approval of a grant for up to \$25,000, if the completed work meets the conditions of the grantor.
- Once begun, the repairs to the truss should not take much longer than two weeks.
- The Property Committee recommended that the bid be accepted, and a motion was made and seconded that St. James' accept the bid as presented. The motion was approved unanimously by the Vestry.
- The Property Committee has selected the GAF faux Cedar shake "Autumn Variblend single width" shingle for the roof. A sample of the shingle was available for the Vestry's review.
- After the contractor starts the truss repairs, John Handlin plans to solicit bids for the church roof from GAF approved vendors.

## RING Monitoring System & WiFi Extender

- To increase security in the Parish House, the Property Committee asked the Vestry to approve \$700.00 for a RING doorbell and monitoring system and WiFi extender.
  - Dick Prettyman has researched monitoring systems.
  - The RING system will allow Fr. Jim, Lola, and the preschool staff to monitor the front door of the Parish House from their work areas.
- A motion was made to move forward with the system Dick Prettyman has recommended. The motion was approved unanimously by the Vestry.

## July Birthdays

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Janice Sukeena    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Alexis Rawding    |
|                  | Jesse Taylor      |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | David Cernos      |
|                  | Ethan DeConstanza |
|                  | Fr. Bill Archer   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Brian Hall        |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Karl Alexander    |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Carolyn Joynt     |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Cindy Fauerbach   |
|                  | Ralph Stampone    |
|                  | Manny DelleDonne  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | Mason Rickey      |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | John Gannett      |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | Liliana Garcia    |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Chuck Haywood     |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Kerri Fauerbach   |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> | Calinda Taylor    |
|                  | Daniel Townsend   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | David Perry       |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Laura Adams       |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | Colton Morris     |

## July Anniversaries

|                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Georgine & John Sukeena  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Arwen & John DeConstanza |

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

## August Birthdays

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Eileen Alexander   |
|                  | Sister BJ Brown    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Olivia Jessup      |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Lisa August        |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Holly Brennan      |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Caroline Cook      |
|                  | Gail Hughes        |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Ava Bentzinger     |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Joel Harrold-Mansk |
|                  | Kelby Sikes        |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | Travis Deibert     |
|                  | Peg Lange          |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Samuel Craig       |
|                  | Joanna DeCostanza  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Diane Aichele      |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | Thomas Bimbi       |
|                  | Evan Seward        |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | Sarah Dennis       |
|                  | Kayleigh Dennis    |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Carl Page          |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Susan Bowser       |
|                  | Alissa Bradbury    |
|                  | Peter Chrisbacher  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Hayley August      |
|                  | Ken Weichert       |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Robert Mooney      |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> | Aly Hall           |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Jenna Bimbi        |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Bob August         |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | Borden Adams       |
|                  | Emma Fauerbach     |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Skip Cook          |

## August Anniversaries

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Kathy & Peter Chrisbacher |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Lisa & Bob August         |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Lynn & Thomas Morgan      |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Sandy & Dick Cornelia     |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | Erin & Marc Sandlhauser   |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | Allyson & Larry Heinold   |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Pat & Jim Minor           |



Invite • Welcome • Connect<sup>®</sup>

**SAVE THE DATE! October 19 and 20, 2018**

**An evangelism conference sponsored by the Episcopal Church in Delaware.**

**Hosted by Christ Church, Wilmington**

**MORE INFORMATION TO COME**

**Do you wish to continue receiving a mailed copy of the newsletter?  
If yes, then please fill out this form and return it to:**

Lola Michael Russell  
St. James Church  
2106 St. James Church Rd  
Wilmington, DE 19808

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have email? Yes/No

If yes, what is your email address? \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*A Letter from St. James'  
July-August 2018*

**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](mailto:office@stjamesmillcreek.comcastbiz.net)

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

**Summer Sunday Service Times**

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:30am Family Worship

**Wednesday**

9:30am Holy Eucharist

10:15am Bible Study



**Website:**

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