

A Letter from St. James

Mill Creek Hundred

July-August 2016

Rector's Ramblings . . . "It's Never Too Late for Love"

Just recently I received some family news through the Face Book group I belong to with a number of my cousins. Some of you may recall that I went to Florida for a few days last December to join in the 100th birthday celebration of my Aunt Dorothy. Well, it seems that Dorothy has met a fellow resident at the Masonic Retirement Home who has stolen her heart, and she has accepted his proposal that they be married! The big day is July 23rd, and I'm only sorry that I can't be there with other family members to join in the festivities.



Fr. Jim's Aunt Dorothy

This heartwarming event in the life of my family is a reminder that love knows no restriction of age, circumstance, or any other factor. As Christians we cannot begin to talk about love without reflecting upon what it means for us to be recipients of God's Love. We say we can love others because God first loved us. And what does it take to show our love for another person? To maintain through prayer a heart that is open, and a willingness to share our life and our experiences. Whenever we do, we are also making a statement about our faith and the Love that God has for each and every person.

This simple lesson is much needed in our world, and especially in light of the current social and political unrest in our own nation. Many of our local communities are stressed in the relationships between segments of our populace and public safety officials. The nature and tone of our political discourse is dominated by insults and fear mongering that only serves to divide us rather than unite us. Jesus said we are to love one another. We are to love our enemies. We are to love ourselves. And yet, so much has happened, so many challenges and attacks have occurred, that it can lessen our ability to trust one another.

But it's never too late to start over. It's never too late for love, especially God's Love, to renew our ability to reach out and find new hope residing just an arm's length away.

The Rev. Jim Bimbi

Tercentennial Quilt



The Parish of Saint James' Episcopal Church, Mill Creek Hundred celebrated 300 years of service in 2014. The exact date of the founding of the Parish has not been recorded in any document; however it is known that a plot of ten acres surrounding an existing church was endowed for the establishment of an Anglican church and school in 1714. Therefore it was decided that the program of activities celebrating the anniversary and highlighting the Church history would begin on Trinity

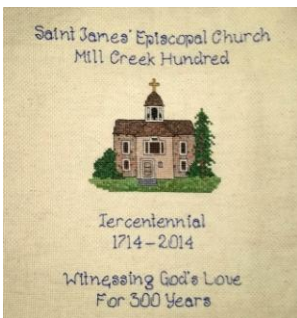
Sunday, 2013 and culminate on Pentecost Sunday, 2014. One of the activities related to the Tercentennial Celebration was the creation of a signature quilt.

The Tercentennial Quilt was dedicated on June 8th, Pentecost Sunday, 2014. It is comprised of 80 stars inscribed with names of parish families and loved ones, with the names around the border of the 43 clergy who served this parish from 1714-2014. There are eleven clergy names on all sides except the top border. The remaining ten names are on the top border leaving one unused space. The final space in the center of the top border bears the statement from the Gospel of John, "I am the vine, you are the branches". The name on the first space on the left side of the top border is "George Ross", a relative of Betsy Ross. Moving clockwise around the border, the current Rector, James Bimbi completes the list. On the corner stones of the border is an image of a scallop shell, to symbolize Saint James the fisherman. Two panels form a large cross on the quilt with an image of the church building in the center. The statement: "*Witnessing God's Love for 300 Years*", is presented below the image of the church. The scallop shells and the church are worked in counted cross stitch. The names on the stars are inscribed by hand. The background surrounding the bright golden stars is formed of batik print cloth selected in the colors of the church seasons.

Many parishioners participated in the production of the Tercentennial Quilt. Their names and contributions are embroidered on a documentation piece attached to the lower back corner of the quilt. The documentation also includes the name of the quilt and the date of its dedication.

The statement "Witnessing Gods love...." Was composed by Cindy Fauerbach. The counted cross stitch embroidery was designed and executed by Fran Mayhew. The star motif was part of the "Shimmer" pattern by Joy Hoffman, published in Better Homes and Garden's American Patchwork and Quilting, February, 2004. The quilt top was constructed by Fran Mayhew. The hand lettered inscription was done by Pam Smith. The hand quilting and other hand stitching was done by Shirley Alexander, Janice Baldwin, Jerry Clark, Sandy Cornelia, Carolyn Eldridge, Debra Nuss and Sue Strecker.

The quilt is on display in the stairwell of the Parish House. It is protected by a wood and plexiglas enclosure designed and constructed by Eric Mayhew with technical support from Nubold Richardson, a professional textile conservator based in Washington, D.C., and Larry Heinold. Clayton Manthorpe assisted with the installation.



A small brochure is in development that will bear a graphic diagram of the specific stars on the quilt and provide a key to indicate the location of the names.

Information provided by Fran Mayhew

June 14, 2016





BACK-TO-SCHOOL 2016

St. James' supports the Back-to-School effort to allow impoverished children to be provided with backpacks, uniforms, school supplies, shoes and haircuts so they have a fresh start to the new school year. The families of these children are unable to supply their children with the basics they need to return to school. If you would like to make a donation to this worthy cause, please make your check to St. James' Church (with a notation on the check for Back-to-School). Any size donation is gratefully received. **The final day to donate is Sunday, July 24.** Thank you very much.
Mission/Outreach Committee

Parish Picnic

July 24th following the 9:30 service

We will celebrate **St. James Day** with food and games and fellowship outside of the Parish House (inside if it rains).

Fried chicken, subs, and beverages will be provided. Bring a salad or dessert if you can. If you can't bring something, come anyway! -

Nancy Prettyman, Parish Life Committee



St. James' Day

Our summer lunch dates for Emmanuel Dining Room are
Sunday, July 31st and Wednesday, August 31st
Menu: tuna salad, salad, fruit, chips, and dessert

Donations needed for both lunches:

TUNA-white tuna packed in water--**total of 1200 ounces of tuna**. So, if you happen to find a good sale on white tuna packed in water, please pick some up. **Large cans with pull tops would be welcome as we need 120+ small cans to feed our guests for each lunch~ and that's a lot of cans to open** ☹️☹️**MAYONNAISE**-8 large jars; **RELISH**- 8 -10 jars; and **INDIVIDUALLY Wrapped BAGS of POTATO CHIPS** - 400

Food donations may be placed in the baskets in the church entryway or brought to the kitchen. Please mark them EDR. Thank you! If you have questions or are able to join us, please **contact Cindy Fauerbach** at 239- 8336 cindyfauerbach@verizon.net

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

On April 27th, Bishop Wayne Wright announced to the diocese his intention to retire in early 2017. The elected Standing Committee of the Diocese is charged with overseeing the process of calling the next bishop. The following letter is their latest communication with the people of the diocese.

Update on Bishop Search from The Standing Committee of the Diocese

Thursday, July 7, 2016

It is our intention to give regular updates on the work of the diocese in calling our next bishop. A few weeks ago, we were delighted to share with you the names of the members of the search committee and the transition committee. The next task to do was the calling of a consultant to assist the two committees with the work of crafting our call process and offering support along the way. The co-chairs of the committees (the Reverend Martha Kirkpatrick, Mr. Steve Boyden, Ms. Suzanne Taber and the Reverend David Andrews) worked with two members of the Standing Committee (Ms. Teri Quinn Gray and the Reverend Max Wolf) to discern the best consultant for our needs. They had extensive interviews with three experienced consultants. We are happy to announce that they have selected the Reverend Thaddeus Bennett to serve in this role. Thad has been a priest serving widely in the church in parishes and on diocesan staffs. For the past six years he has been working as a consultant to various Episcopal organizations and diocesan searches. Prior to that, he served as the Canon for Transitional Ministry in the diocese of Vermont. We are very pleased that he will be working with us.

On July 23rd, the Standing Committee, the Search Committee and the Transition Committee will meet on retreat at Christ Church Dover. This will be a time for prayer, fellowship and organization for the work ahead. To aid the committees in their work, the Standing Committee has developed charges for both of the committees which offer guidance and direction for the work they are asked to do. Those charges will be given to the committees as a part of the retreat. We ask that you hold all of us in your prayers as we embark on this very important work.

To help us with communicating regularly and directly with the members of the diocese, we have engaged Lee Ann Walling to create and maintain a dedicated website for the search and transition. She is hard at work, and the website should be up and running in a few weeks. Once it is, we will send you all the link and will include the link on the diocesan website and in all of the Standing Committee's communications with you. It will be via this website that the two committees will be sharing their progress.

Continued on next page

The last item that we wish to share with you is about the budget for this work. Bishop Wright heeded the wise suggestion of a member of the diocese and has worked for the past 10 years with Council and the Trustees to put monies aside for this purpose. The Standing Committee is working in consultation with the two committees on a budget for the entire process, including the consecration of our next bishop and her/his transition to Delaware. Once the Standing Committee has finalized that budget we will share it with you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of the Standing Committee. We want this process to be as open and accessible as we can make it. We intend to send out to you a reflection on the retreat and the next steps that have come out of the retreat. Until then, we ask for your continued prayers as we move forward.

Faithfully,

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Delaware

The Rev. Patricia S. Downing, President

The Rev. Mary L. Allen

The Rev. Paul Gennett

Ms. Teri Quinn Gray

Ms. Carol H. Kunz

Mr. Jon Rania

Mr. Bruce Vrana

The Rev. Max J. Wolf

Summertime Stewardship

With the summer months come activities and trips that take many individuals and families away on Sundays mornings. What continues uninterrupted is our weekly offering of worship services, and, on a more mundane level, the obligation of the parish to meet its monthly expenses.

Most of us, to meet our recurring expenses, rely upon a steady monthly income whether it comes from work, retirement accounts, or investments. Typically for the church, however, pledged income drops off during the summer months making it difficult for our treasurers and Vestry to manage our bills. If you are going to be away, please remember that we rely upon your year-round support. Offerings can be mailed to the church office at any time. To make it easier, you can enroll for Electronic Fund Transfer to handle your regular pledge payments. Just call Genia in the office for more information.

News from the Journey Team: A View from the Road.....

“Make it Your Daily Mission to Make Someone More Whole”

As the summer season heats up, so does the work of the Journey Team and Vestry. Together with the members of the various St. James' ministries, we are developing ways to re-energize and focus our parish's ministry efforts. One outcome of this work will be sharing more about the good work being done and ministry opportunities during a fall St. James' Ministry Fair. The next formal meeting of The Journey Team will take place in late July, led by Nancy McLaughlin, author and experienced leader in church development.

July Birthdays and Anniversaries were included in last month's newsletter.

August Birthdays

- 1 Eileen Alexander
- 2 Olivia Jessup
- 5 Lisa August
- 6 Holly Brennan
- 7 Caroline Cook
Gail Hughes
- 8 Ava Bentzinger
- 10 Joel Harrold-Mansk
- 11 Peg Lange
- 13 Sam Craig
Joanna DeConstanza
- 15 Diane Aichele
- 16 Evan Seward
- 17 Sarah Dennis
Kayleigh Dennis
- 18 Carl Page
- 19 Susan Bowser
Peter Chrisbacher
- 20 Hayley August
- 24 Robert Mooney
- 25 Aly Hall
- 26 Sally Logue
Kate Hoppenjans
- 28 Bob August
- 29 Borden Adams
Emma Fauerbach
- 30 Skip Cook
Tracy Burns



Let There be Peace on Earth

*by Jill Jackson Miller and Sy Miller
written in 1955.*

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

August Anniversaries

- 12 Lisa & Bob August
- 15 Sandy & Dick Cornelia
- 17 Erin & Marc Sandlhauser
- 21 Allyson & Larry Heinold
- 26 Edna & Church Haywood
- 28 Pat & Jim Minor



"You said we could bring a friend!"

*A Letter from St. James'
Late Summer 2016*

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

Address Service Requested

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U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 36
Wilmington, DE

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

Office Contacts

Phone: 302-994-1584 / Fax: 302-994-3778
Email: office@stjamesmillcreek.comcastbiz.net

Website: stjamesmillcreek.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Tuesday – Thursday
Closed Monday and Friday

Summer Service Times

Sunday –

8:00am Holy Eucharist
9:30am Family Worship

Wednesday

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



Parish
Picnic

July 24, 2016

After 9:30AM
service

St. James' Day



DON'T TAKE A
VACATION
FROM CHURCH

A Letter from St. James