



A Letter from St. James'

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

November 2018

Rector's Ramblings . . . Thanksgiving: A Day or a Daily Practice?

The month of November brings with it the national holiday of Thanksgiving Day. It has its origins in the harvest festival first observed by the Pilgrims in October 1621, and in a proclamation signed by President George Washington in 1789 that "Thursday the 26th of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be."

After 1789, an annual day of Thanksgiving was observed off and on through the years until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln established it as a federal holiday to be held on the last Thursday of November. In some years November has five Thursdays instead of four, and so it happened that in 1939, when there were five, President Franklin D. Roosevelt decided to break with tradition and declared that Thanksgiving that year would to be celebrated on the fourth Thursday. Twenty-three states went along with Roosevelt, and twenty-two did not, resulting in some people referring to a "Democratic Thanksgiving" (for those who followed to Roosevelt's declaration) and a "Republican Thanksgiving" (those who held to the tradition established by Lincoln). This state of affairs continued until 1942 when the U. S. Congress passed legislation affixing the holiday on the fourth Thursday in all states of the Union.

All of which points out that while it is a good thing for the people of our nation to collectively offer a day of thanksgiving, how much more important it is to seek and give thanks on a daily basis. For Christians our thanks are directed towards God our creator, Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our guide. May we remind ourselves of this with all our words and actions.

Blessings, Fr. Jim Bimbi

2019 Pledge Campaign

Early Planning

The fall is a busy time in the parish as much time and energy is given over to the start of the new program year and to the annual November Bazaar, Luncheon, and Turkey Dinner.

In order to help the Vestry complete the financial planning for 2019 in a timely fashion, the Stewardship Committee kicked-off the pledge campaign beginning in October.

Campaign Period – Oct 21 to Nov 30

The campaign launched on Sunday, October 21st with preaddressed pledge packets available to be picked up in church. Those not picked were mailed. Everyone is asked to return their 2019 financial pledge no later than November 30th.

The 2018 St. James' Annual Bazaar



Friday, November 2nd 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Saturday, November 3rd 10:00 am – 7:00 pm

This is a wonderful opportunity to support your church and spend time with family and friends. Everyone working together will make this a successful event.

The Bazaar Ladies have been very busy creating many new items along with old favorites.

Every year the ladies come up with new and unique ideas.

You can find just the right gift for those on your gift list.

There will be something for everyone.

Quilt Raffle

Jerry Clark has hand stitched a beautiful Queen Size Quilt and 2 Pillow Shams.

They will be on display in the lobby of the Parish House during the Bazaar.

Chances will be available for \$1.00 each, 6/\$5.00 or 15/\$10.00.

White Elephant Room

Located downstairs in the Parish House, find a treasure amongst the pre-owned items.

Sign-Up sheets for helpers are posted in the Great Hall in the Parish House.

Any amount of time you are available to help, will be greatly appreciated.

There Are Still Many Ways You Can Help

Kitchen helpers and servers are needed for the Turkey Dinner.

Relief workers are needed in the shops during lunch and dinner breaks.

Make something delicious for the Bake Shop.

Help with clean-up.

Bazaar Bake Shop

The Bake Shop is looking forward to your donations of baked goods, candies, and preserves. Your delicious homemade items are always a favorite with all our customers. *Please plan to bring your baked goods, jellies, jams, pickles, candies, etc. to the Parish House at the following times:*

Thursday, November 1st	5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Friday, November 2nd	8:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Saturday, November 3rd	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

There is Something for Everyone at the Bazaar!

Enjoy two days of shopping and good food with family and friends.

Bazaar Shops & Raffles

Christmas Shop - Everything you need for the holiday: ornaments, wreaths, wall hangings, decorations, snowmen, angels, etc.

Petal Alley - Beautiful arrangements & wreaths; we have seasonal pieces and many other decorative items.

One Fine Yarn - The best handmade items you will find anywhere. The ladies have been busy quilting, knitting, crocheting and sewing.

Unique Gifts - This is the perfect shop for that special gift. The selection includes gift baskets, cross-stitch items, hand crafted jewelry, hand painted items, and a variety of gifts.

ABC – This shop has a variety of items for children. There are knitted and crocheted afghans, sweaters, hats and assorted accessories. Jewelry, books and stuffed animals will also be available.

White Elephant Room – The White Elephant Room will be located downstairs. There will be an assortment of gently used items.

The Quilt Raffle & Raffle Table - You will be pleased with the items we have this year. Don't forget to stop at the Quilt Raffle and the Raffle Table.

The Bake Shop - We have everything for the sweet tooth: Pies, cakes, cookies, breads, preserves, and candy. This is the tastiest corner of the Bazaar.

Door Prizes – There will be Door Prizes. Be sure to enter for a chance to win a Door Prize.

**If you have any questions about the Bazaar please contact:
Nancy Patterson (239-7649) or Shirley Alexander (738-5331)**

**The Bazaar Ladies want to thank everyone for their donations throughout the year.
Your continued support is greatly appreciated.**

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON NOVEMBER 2nd AND 3rd

November 3rd is our annual Turkey Dinner Fund Raiser!



Turkey
Dinner

There might still be tickets available. Reserved seating at 4:00pm, 5:30pm, and 7:00pm, or pick up a Take-Out order and have your feast at home.

CALL NOW to inquire as to availability. Church Office: (302) 994-1584

November 4th - All Saints' Sunday

The Feast of All Saints is a time of remembrance of the steadfast witnesses of the Christian faith who have passed through this life to the next. While this feast day was originally associated with the LARGE "S" saints like Saint James or Saint Paul, it has come to be a time when we remember the SMALL "s" saints we have known in our lives. These saints are the family members, friends, teachers, coworkers, neighbors and others who have touched upon the fabric of our lives. We will remember them all this year on All Saints' Sunday, November 4th with the opportunity for each of us to remember some of the small "s" saints we have known. In preparation for worship on that day, spend some time in prayer giving thanks to God for the people who have a special place in your heart and memory. When you come to church, may the grace you have received from their lives bring you thankfully before God, the One who has given us to each other in love.



From the 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 every month the members of the prayer team hold a short prayer service in the church following the 2nd 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 each month, they will continue collecting prayers at the end of the 2nd service and lifting them up during the week. **All are welcome to participate in these monthly services.**

For those who are not able to come to church or have an immediate prayer need, we invite you to call Sister BJ Brown at 302.420.7117 or email her at: sisterbjbrown@gmail.com

November 6th – Election Day

#EpiscopaliansVote

advocacy.episcopalchurch.org/episcopal/EpiscopaliansVote



If we who are Christians participate in the political process and in the public discourse as we are called to do — the New Testament tells us that we are to participate in the life of the polis, in the life of our society — the principle on which Christians must vote is the principle 'does this look like love of neighbor?'

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, March 2016

On Tuesday, November 6th, our nation will head to the polls to vote in state and local elections. While many voters only participate when there is a presidential election, the so-called 'mid-term' elections command our involvement as well. We should take it as an honor and a privilege to have a voice in who will be our local, county, and state officials and representatives for the coming years.

For Christians the faithful commitment to political participation aligns with our Baptismal Covenant's promise to "strive for justice and peace and respect the dignity of every human being." In line with our faith, and in dedication to the integrity of our democratic system, we are also called to support all of our newly elected leaders and to work together for the common good of our country.

November 21st at 7:00pm - Thanksgiving Eve

Ecumenical Service of the Mill Creek Ministerium

On Wednesday, November 21st at 7:00pm, the churches of the Mill Creek Ministerium will gather for their annual Thanksgiving Eve Service, this year to be held at the St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Following the tradition of this service, the choir members of all of the churches have been invited to sing an anthem in a combined choir.

Looking Ahead:

To Advent 2018

The Start of a New Church Year – The First Sunday of Advent, which this year falls on December 2nd, marks the beginning of a new Church Year. Advent, from the Latin word *adventus*, means 'coming' or 'emergence' and is the season during which Christians prepare for the coming of Christ, most notably observed with the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Since Jesus has already been born, however, it also carries the call to prepare for when the Risen Christ will come again in power and great glory.

To Christmas 2018

It might seem a little early to be thinking about Christmas, but the Worship Life Ministry Team and Fr. Jim want to begin to get the word out concerning the schedule of services around the yearend holidays. For Christmas Eve, Monday Dec 24th, there will be two evening services, and then a morning service on Christmas, Tuesday Dec 25th. Then, on the First Sunday after Christmas there will be one service only at 9:00am.

So, the holiday schedule will look like this:

- **Monday, CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24th, 2018**
 - ~ **7:30pm**, Youth Led Service with Holy Eucharist
 - ~ **10:00pm**, Candlelight Service with Holy Eucharist
- **Tuesday, CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25th, 2018**
 - ~ **9:00am**, Quiet Holy Eucharist
- **Sunday, December 30th, 2018**
 - ~ **ONE SERVICE at 9:00am**, Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist

To Epiphany 2019

A Weekend Retreat in Rehoboth Beach – Sign up now for the **St. James' Retreat Weekend, February 8-10, 2019**, at the diococesan operated A. Felix DuPont Memorial House, nestled among pine trees just two blocks from the Atlantic Ocean in Rehoboth Beach. The retreat will begin with dinner on Friday and concludes on Sunday morning, and includes lots of free time and opportunities for socializing. **Cost is \$175/person**. Space is limited. Contact Sam White or Fr. Jim today.

November Birthdays

- 1 Shannon Mooney
- 2 Claude White
- 4 Leah Burns
Brent Hall
- 5 Mark McGee
- 7 Kelsey Hall
Christopher Jessup
- 8 Jacqueline Gillespie
Ray Arzinger
- 9 Tyler Cormier
- 11 Holly Barnes
Will Patterson III
- 12 Shawn Patterson Jr.
- 14 Kate Brewer
- 15 Ed Clark
- 17 Kathy Kwiatkowski
Molly Taylor
- 18 Jerry Clark
- 20 Matthew Aichele
- 21 Helen Hickam
- 22 George Sukeena
- 23 Scott Miller
- 24 Joan Swider
Kay Sykes
- 25 Jim Burns
- 26 Susan Mooney
Michael Patterson
Eleanor Shaffer



November Anniversaries

- 10 Jerry & Ed Clark
- 11 Mell & Manny DelleDonne
- 20 Lisa & Mark McGee
- 23 Evelyn & Claude White
- 24 Helen & Frank Hickam



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: stjamesmillcreek.org