



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS, RECTOR

JULY AUGUST 2010

Dear St. James' Friends,

Cathy asked me to write a letter for this month's Journal in which I share with you what I have seen here at St. James' during my first weeks with you.

Perhaps the first thing that I became aware of is how many of you there are who want me to know how very proud you are of St. James, its diversity and many ministries, and how grateful you are to Cathy for the ministry she has exercised with and among you. You have made it very clear that you love the parish and that you want me to love it too. Your joy in this community is contagious and it is great fun and a privilege for me to be with you during this special time for you all.

In many parishes a relatively few people do all of the work. This does not seem to be the case with you. There is a lot getting done and a great variety of people involved in the doing of it. A wonderful variety of musicians, Altar Guild persons and liturgical leadership enriches your worship, great cooks contribute to the picnic and coffee hours, careful stewards care for your finances and a host of volunteers help with the office and grounds work. Much of the time and talent of parishioners goes to ministries which reach out to the local community and beyond. You support Trinity's Food Pantry, you knit for the sailors who come to our shores in the winter months, you pack bags for the children's backpack program and distribute them on Saturday mornings and you will be sending a delegation for a week's work in Appalachia.

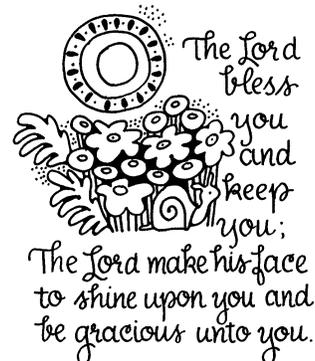
You are blessed with an exceptional Vestry whose meetings are characterized by a warmth and openness and a careful attention to the many details of parish life. I have been especially impressed with its conviction that somehow funding will be found for the various missions to which you have been called, with its willingness to invest extra effort to make your building available for those who need it and with the integrity, sensitivity and compassion with which it deals with sensitive issues.

It is clear that all of this begins in worship and is supported by a faithful prayer chain. You know that you are a Body of the Christ planted here in Hackettstown and are focused on making his love real for those whose lives you can touch. Thank you for your warm welcome of me and for the opportunity to share this time with you in this way. I look forward to the weeks ahead.

In Christ,

Betsy +

Elizabeth W. Myers
Sabbatical Priest



NUMBERS 6:24

Warden's Words

Two thirds of the way there and all is well! I have a new understanding of the inner workings of the church and a renewed respect for our Parish administrator, Linda Murray, and for Cathy.

We had a great turnout for the Memorial Day parade, lots of children riding our float and throwing out candy. We passed out balloons and had a wonderful time. Thanks to everyone who pitched in and participated.

Our sabbatical project, the summer backpack program is well underway and is a great success. The committee has done a wonderful job and we continue to "feed the children". Walk into the Parish Hall any Sunday morning after the service and you will find many hands packing bags of food to send home with the children. Such a wonderful project! Thank you to everyone that volunteers to help.

Our plans to re-invent our website are also underway. Under the guidance of the publicity committee, we have begun the process of recreating our web presence, a project long overdue. It is our hope to attract more folks to our parish community by creating a website that will appeal to all generations and provide a glimpse into what St. James' is all about. We will keep you updated on when the new site will be ready.

Thank you for all your support!
Invite a friend to church!!

Barbara White
Junior Warden

Sabbatical Coverage

We welcome The Rev. Elizabeth (Betsy) Myers who will provide Sabbatical coverage during the months of June and July. In case of a pastoral emergency, please call the Rector's office at 908.850.4549 for instructions.

Volunteer Needed

Pauline, our Sexton is taking her vacation from July 21st- August 4th. We need help during this time gathering and taking out the trash from the Mitcham House and Parish Hall. Trash is picked up on Friday and put on the curb on Thursday evening. The lawn will also need to be mowed. Please call the office if you are able to help with these chores.

Episcopal Relief and Development

is accepting donations to help communities devastated by the Gulf Oil Spill. Donations forms are available in the back of the church. You can also donate online at their site for disaster relief:

<https://www.er-d.org/donate-select.php>.

From the Rector's Sabbatical Blog

July 1

Today begins the last third of my sabbatical time. I recalled this poem [Halfway Down" by A. A. Milne, *When We Were Very Young*] a couple of weeks ago when I reached the halfway mark. It was our last day in Hawai'i and my first trip on a zipline. At the same time frightening and exhilarating, it might be a good metaphor for living into any kind of experience, including life itself. As I looked out over the valley, some 250 feet deep, and heard the instruction at the edge of the cliff, "just run and keep on running until your feet leave the edge," fear gripped my heart. But the first step into thin air was accompanied by a freedom impossible to describe. Now I don't have any astounding insights or even sermon ideas from this or any other of my experiences yet. I have simply been absorbing them (or jumping into them).

In this break of time between vacation and study in England, the L'Arche Regional Conference took place in nearby Scranton. It was a three-day experience for all core members, assistants and other workers, friends and family, built around fellowship, recreation, worship and fun. They came from Massachusetts, Ohio, New York, Virginia, Washington DC, Pennsylvania, and the newest pre-project in southern New Jersey. I re-connected with the people I had met in Haverhill and Erie, and made new friends in New Jersey and Central Virginia. We swam in the pool, ate lunch together, and were treated to presentations of each L'Arche community. Saturday evening concluded with a foot-washing service as a reminder of how we serve and bless each other.



I continue to be blessed by the people of L'Arche. They are joyful, dedicated to each other, people of prayer. They are not perfect, and that does not stop them from blessing each other and the world.

They remind me so much of the people of St. James', whom I miss immensely in the midst of this jewel of sabbatical time.

Shalom,
Cathy

Follow Cathy's Sabbatical Blog. Go to
<http://cathysabbatical.blogspot.com/>

July and August Dates to Remember

July 15	Thursday Healing Service • Lady Chapel • 7:00 PM
July 31 - August 7	EAM
August 1	Sunday Coffee Hour Honoring Sabbatical Priests
August 8	Cathy returns from Sabbatical
	Family Breakfast will follow the 9:00 AM service.
August 15	4:00 PM Service in addition to 9:00 AM service
	Cookout will follow the 4 PM service.
August 26	Vestry Meeting • Deats Residence • 6:30 PM Dinner • 7:30 PM Meeting
August 29	Holy Baptism

In September

September 5	Return to two services at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
September 19	Homecoming Sunday • Family Breakfast

Summer office hours

Office closed on Mondays and Tuesdays • office open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Summer Services

One service only at 9:00 AM until August 29



Support Your Local Food Pantry in July, we will be collecting juice for Trinity's Food pantry.

Healing Service

The Rev. Betsy Myers will lead a **healing service** in the Chapel on **Thursday, July 15th at 7 pm**,

. The service will include the opportunity for the Laying on of Hands for Healing. The Episcopal Church has a long tradition of praying for healing, and not only in times of great sickness or distress, but at any time people wish to receive God's healing power for any area of their life which inhibits their wholeness, whether it be anxiety, depression, spiritual conflict or physical ailment. Please join us for this celebration of God's healing power in our midst, whether you desire the laying on of hands for yourself or not.

Special Coffee Hour to thank Sabbatical Priests

On August 1st, we will have a special coffee hour to thank the clergy who have been so wonderful during our sabbatical. We have been blessed with the very best, The Rev. Abby Hamilton, The Rev Jeanette Hile, The Rev. Betsy Myers and our own, The Rev. Sheila Shuford. Please contact Barbara White.

Celebrate Cathy's Return

On August 8th, we will gather for our first **FAMILY BREAKFAST** in four years! And we will celebrate Cathy's return and the end of our sabbatical. Breakfast will follow the 9AM service.

Summer Afternoon Worship, Cookout

Summer afternoon worship service is scheduled for **August 15th** at 4 PM. Following the service, we will have a cookout with hamburgers and hot dogs on the grill. Please plan on attending and bringing a side dish to share. Dave Heistand and anyone with an instrument to play will provide the music.

A sign up sheet will be in the Parish Hall hallway.

Episcopal Appalachian Ministry

Mark your calendars! On **Saturday, July 31st**, at **9 AM**, Cathy, Katie, Matt and Sylvia will begin their journey to Grace House on the Mountain. Grace House is set in the mountains of the western part of Virginia and is truly a beautiful area filled with rolling hills and green pastures. They will call this home for a week, eating home cooked meals at night in the dining area, sleeping in bunkhouses, and sharing worship and fellowship each day in the community of Grace House. Each morning they will fan out to a variety of work sites and perform minor miracles in the form of house repairs for several needy families. These repairs can include replacing floors, plumbing, or building a ramp to give someone access. The folks of Appalachia are very appreciative, not only the families where the work is being done but the entire community is welcoming and appreciative. St. James' has sent a group to Appalachia each year for about the last 10 years, and each year they bring back stories that warm the heart and make you proud that we as a community can be a part of such a needed ministry.

The last couple of years we have held a car wash to help with the expenses of this trip and we are still trying to find somewhere to do that this year. We will let you know soon where and when. (The Shell station no longer allows car washes) The car wash supports a good portion of the trip but your donations for this ministry are also important. Expenses include at least nine meals for four or five people on the trip down and back, hotel stay for one night (two rooms) on the way down and gas. If you are able make a donation to the EAM fund for this trip, or if you would like to make this trip, please contact Barbara White as soon as possible.

On Saturday, August 7th, we welcome our group back from EAM. They usually arrive at the church around 5 PM.

Barbara White

St. James' Yarn Twisters

The St. James' "Yarn Twisters" knitting/crocheting group met on Thursday, June 17th with Phyllis Bartkus, Wendie Germain, Barbara Pixley, Linda Ayres and Linda Miller participating.

We saw the completion of Wendie's two tone scarf, a crocheted scarf from Louise and a knitted scarf from Barbara Pixley. Linda Ayres and Phyllis Bartkus were well into their projects also.

I visited with the knitting group at House of the Good Shepherd on June 7th. These enthusiastic ladies are going to knit/crochet squares for a blanket that we will put together at one of our sessions.

Our next get together will be **on Saturday, July 10th at 9 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. If you need further information, please contact me at frlbailey1@comcast.net or call me at 908-684-3566.

If you would like to know more about the Seamen's Church Institute, please check out their website at www.seamenschurch.org. All knitted and crocheted items will benefit many mariners during the winter months. Our yarn supply is running low so donations of 4 ply, washable yarn in appropriate colors for the seamen are always welcome!

Linda Miller

Fundraising News

Easter candy, Longaberger, IHOP, golf outing, aprons, rummage sale, Yankee Candle, Tastefully Simple and St. Patrick's dinner so far this year. We are well on our way to another outstanding year of fundraising. We will be planning a spaghetti dinner in the near future so keep an eye on the bulletin for details.

Plans for this year's tricky tray to be held in mid-October are underway and we are looking forward to a huge success. As always, we will need baskets and ribbons. So, if you come across anything in your travels that we can use, please pick it up. Yard sales are a great place to find baskets if you happen to do yard sales. Summer sales are also a great time to purchase items you would like to donate as a basket. We have already purchased a notebook computer for one of the upper tier prizes and we always have an eye out for the super deal on other items. Remember prizes can include anything from dog grooming supplies to toys for children, car cleaning kits to candles and tea and everything in between.

The fall rummage sale will be held in September. So keep us in mind when you are cleaning out the attic or garage but please do not save the electronics or books for us. We usually cannot sell these items and disposal is difficult.

Thank you for your support.

Barbara White

HELP WANTED Several Positions open

Youth Group Coordinator: Please see Dawn Modugno

Sunday School Coordinator: Please see Kathy Lacouture

Building Use Coordinator: Please see DJ Hoffman or Dave Lacouture

Special Events Coordinator: Please see Barbara White
Compensation includes self-satisfaction and God's Grace. Sign up now.

Youth Group News

Youth Group has finished for the summer, but will start up again in September. The group is looking for new leadership. Please speak to Dawn Modugno, Lori Pursel, Cathy Deats, Linda Murray or one of the wardens if you are interested.

Congratulations to all the graduates!

Sunday School Coordinator Needed

The St. James' Community is in need of a coordinator of Sunday School for the coming fall church school year. At this time, I am not able to continue in that role and the vestry and teachers are recruiting a leader. Training, orientation, and assistance is available! It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the St. James' community, families, and children over the past four years and I plan to stay on as a teacher. Thanks for all of your support and enthusiasm. Sunday School remains on hiatus until mid-September. *Please contact me, Barbara White, or Greg Malejko if you can assist in this important ministry.*

Kathy Lacouture

Altar Flower Sponsors are needed for October 3rd, November 14th, 28th, AND December 5th. Please call the office (908.852.3968) if you are interested in sponsoring the flowers one of the Sundays.

Summer Coffee Hour Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for July and August. Please sign up in the upper hallway of the Parish Hall.

Thanks to St. James' Members

Thank you for the lovely gift given to me on Choir Recognition Sunday. The candy dish has special meaning as it was made by Cathy and the candy won't last very long. Thank you to everyone for making "working" at St. James' a true pleasure.

Louise Olshan

Organist and Bell Choir Director



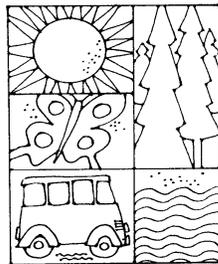


With thanks to photographers Pete Hurak and Kathy Lacouture

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VACATION



MAY OUR SPIRITS
BE OPENED TO THE
GOODNESS OF YOUR
C·R·E·A·T·I·O·N

St James' Staff & Vestry

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Cathy L. Deats
Deacon: The Rev. Sheila Shuford
Rector Emeritus: The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Senior Warden: Greg Malejko
Junior Warden: Barbara White
Treasurer: Penn Pixley
Parish Administrator: Linda Murray
Music Director: Pam Laura
Organist: Louise Olshan
Sexton: Pauline Volkert

Vestry:

Richard Ames Ron Cipriani
Dave Handville DJ Hoffman
David Lacouture Dan Miller
Peter Quelly Martha Travostino
Paula Van Clef

September Journal articles due

Monday, August 30

Phyllis Heistand, Editor
and all the writers, reporters and
photographers for this issue
David Heistand, proofreader, printer
Marge Ames & Heath Village Team, assemblers
Email news4stjames@comcast.net

**For Weekly Announcements and
what's happening at St. James',
visit our Webpage:**

stjameshackettstown.org
Russ Worthington, Webmaster
Check out the latest slide shows!