



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS, RECTOR

OCTOBER 2010



ON A RAINY MORNING, a teenager was driving along Route 46 in heavy rain. His truck fishtailed and the next thing he knew, he was upside-down at the side of the road. He managed to release his seat belt and climb from the vehicle. He was unhurt. Later, his mom looked into the cab of the crushed truck, stunned that her son did not have a scratch on him. What caught her eye was the guardian angel visor clip given to him at church when he received his driver's license. It is enough to give anyone chills.

I am always happy to hear stories like this: a story of deliverance from tragedy, loss avoided, protection. And since my life as a baptized person raises the question, "Where is God in this?", theological reflection kicks in. In the Education for Ministry (EFM) program, theological reflection is a process we use to connect our everyday lives to the holy, especially through scripture and the experience of the church. TR is at its best when it looks like the answer is simple, but wrestling with the story brings us deeper into our lives as baptized people. In this story, we could say the blessing of the angel went with the teen and protected him. Or, the angel was just a symbol, and God protected him. But what would we say if he had been hurt, or what about those teens who do not have an angel on their visor?

Disciples of Jesus Christ know there is no simple answer, and in fact, many times there is *no* answer. They know that being in community as the body of Christ does not protect them through a

piece of metal, even a blessed piece of metal. They know that bad things happen because we are human, not because God does not protect us. They know that there are things we will never understand, and sometimes it is enough to know that the answer to the question, "Where is God in this?" is "everywhere."

Our strength to live into and through all the stories of our lives comes from our life together in God. We were joined in this life through baptism, and gathered at St. James' to keep our promises. We are resuscitated each week at worship, our children are nurtured in the stories of our faith and our teens are encouraged to find God in the stories of their lives. We live together day by day and year by year in fellowship, celebrating our joys and mourning our sorrows. We practice forgiveness and mercy. We put aside getting our own way in favor of what is best for the community. We give of ourselves, our time, our money. We are challenged by the needs of the world, and respond to them as best we can. We continue to seek God through the physical symbols of our lives together: a quilt, a kitchen, an altar, a backpack, a cup of coffee, an angel visor clip.

It is a privilege and a joy to be priest in this community.

Your fellow disciple,

Cathy L. Deats +

Warden's Words

Last week Eileen and I went to visit our son Thomas, who is currently in Missouri. It was great to see him and we enjoyed our time together. We did some hiking, visited some military museums, went on a driving tour of a portion of "Historic Route 66" and (believe it or not) we ate dinner in a cave. It was a most interesting experience – be sure to ask Eileen or I about being kissed by the cave gods!

On the drive between St. Louis and our final destination in Fort Leonard Wood we came upon a small town named "St. James". Imagine that – we're a thousand miles from home, driving through the heartland of the country and we come upon a town that instantly got our attention. We stopped to snap a few pictures and to visit the St. James Winery. We didn't spend too much time in the area, but we did feel a sense of belonging there. I can't really describe it; it's nothing more than a town that has a name familiar to us, but yet we felt a connection. Interesting.

On the return trip we spent a day in St. Louis, where we visited the Gateway Arch and toured the Anheuser Busch Factory. So, all in all it was a great trip. We got to visit Tom, do some sightseeing and even visit St. James. Perfect!

Back here at the St. James' of Hackettstown two major events are being planned for October, the Tricky Tray and the Murder Mystery. Thanks to everyone that is helping to make these events possible; both require many hours of planning and preparation. Remember (in the words of a past Warden), many hands make light work. If you are able, please consider volunteering to help make these events a great success.

Greg Malejko
Senior Warden

Vestry Hi-lites from September meeting

- The rummage sale on September 18 netted \$466.
- Worship leaders will gather for training to incorporate new members and get a refresher: Saturday, October 9: 10 AM for Lay Eucharistic Ministers and 10:30 for Acolytes. All will finish by noon.
- The Backpack program has a new volunteer who joined us by reading about the program in the newspaper.
- St. Peters, Morristown Outreach Committee will award a grant of \$3000 to St. James' Deaf Ministry.
- St. James' will enter into a trial of providing coffee service in a more convenient and economical manner.



Diocesan News

Vestry University

Strengthening Leaders for the Church of Today AND Tomorrow

Saturday, October 16, 2010

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

St. Elizabeth's Church, 169 Fairmount Road, Ridgewood

A training day for all wardens, vestry members, treasurers and other congregational lay leaders to learn, network and celebrate your ministry!

Download: [flyer & schedule](#) on Diocesan website.
www.dioceseofnewark.org/

Taste and See - Eating with Jesus

Sunday, October 24, 2010

5 - 8 pm

St. Luke's Church, Montclair

Worship at 5 pm, followed by dinner and discussion
Sara Miles, author of *Take This Bread* and *Jesus Freak*, will help us to explore how the feast at the altar can connect to the feast of the food pantry. It is vital to invite everyone to the table, without exception.

Save time - [register online!](#) or download the [flyer & registration form](#) on Diocesan website.

For more information please contact [Kitty Kawecki](#),
Director of Resources & Training, 973-430-9902.

Celebrating LIFE as Ministry

Tools for All God's People: A Conference on Lay Ministry

Saturday, November 6, 2010 9 am - 3 pm

Grace Church, Madison

Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Byron Rushing, member of Massachusetts House of Representatives and a passionate lay leader in The Episcopal Church.

Workshop choices will focus on ways to explore how your faith can be expressed in your everyday life both individually and as a community.

Download: [flyer](#) / [brochure & registration form](#)

For more information please contact [Kitty Kawecki](#),
Director of Resources & Training, 973-430-9902.

Parish Life and Upcoming Events



Call for Worship Leaders

Gifts needed: love of God; the technical aspects of serving will be taught on October 9

Time needed: one Sunday worship service per month assisting on altar (either 7:45 am to 9 am or 9:45 am to 11:15 am) plus training as scheduled (one to two times per year).

Acolytes and Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) express their love of God as they lead our liturgy in a reverent and joyful manner. The acolyte may carry a processional cross or torch (big candle!) or assist the Deacon and Priest as they do their jobs. LEMs read prayers and lessons, and serve the chalice at communion.

Getting started is easy: come to the joint training of Acolytes and Lay Eucharistic Ministers **Saturday, October 9, 10:30 to noon for Acolytes, LEMs should arrive at 10 AM.**

Speak to Cathy Deats, Jewels Quelly or Brian Nolan with questions.

Parish Life

The seasonal gathering of all committee coordinators and leaders will be held Thursday, October 21st at 7:30 pm in the Great Hall. The agenda is planning worship and parish activities for the seasons of Advent and Epiphany.

Support Your Local Food Pantry

When asked what Trinity Food Pantry needs for the October food donation, the answer is, "soup, soup and more soup!" I say, add "especially hearty soups".

Cathy

Redesigned Website is up and running!

The redesigned St. James' website is up and running as of September 1. It is maintained at the same address: <http://stjameshackettstown.org> We hope you will visit and let us know what you think.

Maintenance Morning

A cup of coffee with good people, a mild physical workout (indoors or out, your choice), the satisfaction of a job well done, saving a few dollars for St. James' – who could ask for a better Saturday morning!

Saturday, October 30th from 9 AM to 12 noon. Gather with us for jobs for everyone. For those unafraid of (minor) heights: gutter cleaning; for the *Clean House* junkies, cleaning the basement in the Parish Hall; for the muscular, removing air conditioners; and for those who love the beauty of the earth, putting the garden to bed for winter while brightening it up for fall. Dave Handville will be your expert leader. Mark that date on your calendars now!

Blessing of the Animals

St. James' Episcopal Church will offer a Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis, Sunday, October 3rd, at 4:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

St. Francis, who lived in the 13th century and founded the religious order of the Franciscans, was



legendary for his love of animals. We invite all interested children and adults to bring their beloved friends to receive a special blessing. Any kind of animal is welcome from fish to cats and dogs; we ask that all pets be either kept on

leash or in a carrier or cage.

St. James' also asks everyone who comes to bring pet supplies to benefit local animal shelters. Items needed are laundry detergent, blankets and towels (used ones OK), Clorox disinfecting wipes, cat and dog toys.

Refreshments for both pets and their owners will be available for all after the service. The church is located at the corner of Washington and Moore Streets in Hackettstown (214 Washington St).

October Dates to Remember

| | |
|------------|---|
| October 2 | Hackettstown Community Day • Noon – 5:00 PM |
| October 3 | Blessing of Creatures • Parish Hall • 4:00 PM |
| October 10 | Holy Baptism • 10:00 Service |
| October 16 | Tricky Tray • Budd Lake Fire House |
| October 17 | Healing Prayer Service • 8:00 & 10:00 |
| October 17 | Young Families Hallowe'en Event • 12:00 Noon |
| October 23 | Murder Mystery Dinner • Parish Hall • 6:00 PM |
| October 28 | Vestry Meeting • Mitcham House • 7:30 PM |
| October 30 | Maintenance Morning • 9:00 AM to Noon |
| October 31 | Sunday School Hallowe'en Party • 10:00 AM |

November Journal articles due **Monday, October 25**

Phyllis Heistand, Editor
Cathy Deats, News for St. James' and all the writers, reporters for this issue
David Heistand, proofreader, printer
Marge Ames & Heath Village Team, assemblers
Email
pdheistand@comcast.net

Parish Life and Upcoming Events

Backpack Program

Following a successful and very satisfying summer run, the Backpack Program is up and running again for fall. Our first delivery was September 29th – 40 backpacks to two schools. Each week, faithful volunteers bring the nutritious snack foods to children at Hatchery Hill and Willow Grove schools. We celebrate the leadership of Paul Bartkus over the summer, and our veteran lead volunteer Richard Ames who is part of the team for fall. We also celebrate the Publicity Committee, which drew in a new community volunteer for fall through its team of members and their press release blitz!

A letter from United Thank Offering

September 27, 2010

Dear Cathy and Mission Team members,

As I sit down to write this letter and acknowledge all the work the St. James' Church volunteers have put into the backpack program, my mind drifts to seeing everyone lined up to assemble the summer backpack bags. The team is a "well-oiled machine"!

It was a year ago that Cathy approached me at Hackettstown community Day and asked the key question, "so Sarah tell me what's in that backpack". The rest is pleasant history. St. James' is responsible for feeding over 52 children during the school year and providing 230 meals this summer!

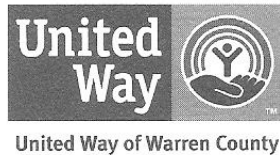
All the volunteers that made it possible to ensure that our school children "don't go home and go hungry" is admirable. The organization, weekly transportation of food to the schools, expanding the program to the summer and all that it entailed is simply remarkable!

This has been a personal journey for all of us. I have made new friends and collectively, we have made a true impact on the community by bringing the "food insecurity" issue to light.

St. James' Church is a true community partner and the finest example of Living United! Thank you for your partnership – we have only just begun.

All the best,

Sarah Brelvi
President & CEO



Got Talent?

In the kingdom of God, talent can be described as gift, special skill, or ability...some might say the willingness to serve is a talent in itself. As you think about how your talent might help our community, check out some folks who are finding theirs:

Ann Edens – an attorney specializing in family law and mediation, she assisted with legal matters that helped us receive gifts left to us that might not have been realized.

Dave Handville – an experienced "construction guy," he is coordinating our maintenance needs; always loving a balanced life, each week he compiles and reads the names of servicemen and women who have lost their lives.

Linda Ayres and Dawn Modugno – kept the office open and running during the Parish Administrator's leave; Linda also found she enjoys reading at worship and became a Lector.

Alicia LaForge and Jennifer Howlin – are our Sunday School coordinators, taking hold of the education of our beautiful and sparkling children!

These are only a few people discerning the ways they can contribute. We know there are many more, including those who are in the process of claiming a ministry or trying one out.

If you notice someone with talent, notify the editor:
pdheistand@comcast.net



An Open Invitation to a Birthday Celebration

Gerri Huryk requests the pleasure of your company at the 90th birthday celebration of her father

Robert Carswell

Sunday, October 17, 2010

12 noon to 3 pm

Warren Haven Nursing Home

350 Oxford Rd, Oxford NJ

downstairs multi-purpose room

Directions, call Gerri 908.216.0083

O. G. DEVLIN STONE CELEBRITY ROAST

There will be individuals at this party who have sinister motives. Join the fun and suspense as O. G. gets roasted by world famous detective fan club presidents, and try to figure out who is plotting what. Watch out!

You may be a suspect, too! . . . what's your alibi??!

Saturday, October 23rd, 6:00 PM, Parish Hall

Your dinner invitations will be arriving soon in your mail.

Sunday School News

Sunday School had our first class of the new school year on Sept. 19th. All children from Pre-K (age 4) up to 5th grade are welcome to attend. We meet in the Parish Hall during the 10AM service every Sunday except for Family Sunday (the first Sunday of the month). Godly Play lessons are taught to the children, which includes a story, craft, and a feast.

This year we have a great team of teachers and are happy to have a large number of enthusiastic students already registered. Due to the growth of our program, we are going to start splitting the group into two sessions, with the younger children in one group and our older kids in another group. This should allow us to have more focused lesson discussions and will help with facilitating the craft projects.

Also this year, we have two new coordinators – Jennifer Howlin and Alicia LaForge. Many thanks to Kathy Lacouture for her dedication to the Sunday School program and all of her help in transitioning the coordination responsibilities.

We have many fun activities in the works for the children this year including a Halloween party, a project to organize holiday food baskets for families in need, and a Christmas pageant. Check out the updated Sunday School bulletin boards in the Parish Hall to see pictures of the children and information on upcoming activities.

HELP WANTED: Youth Group Coordinator

A new coordinator is needed for the Youth Group. Please speak to Rod Perez-Vega, Lori Pursel or Cathy Deats.

St. James' Episcopal Church Youth Group started its new year in September. Lessons are being led by Seminarian Rod Perez-Vega and Lori Pursel while the Youth Group looks for a new coordinator. Youth Group meets the second and fourth Sundays of the month.



First Communion Girard Jocelyn with Cathy



Kathy Lacouture serves a feast of juice and cookies.



We are always looking for more volunteers help teach and assist with the classes. If you are interested please contact one of the coordinators.

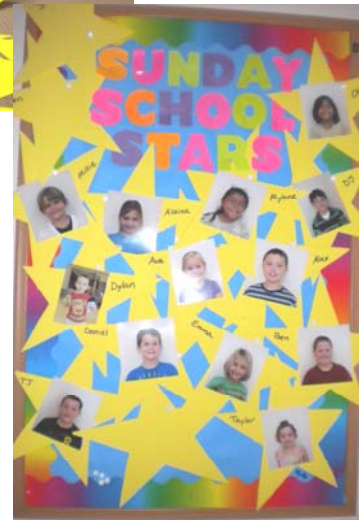
Sunday School Schedule

October 3rd Family Sunday
 October 10th Lesson – The Ark and the Flood
 October 17th Lesson – The Mustard Seed
 October 24th Lesson – The Ten Best Ways to Live
 October 31st Halloween Party

Jennifer Howlin and Alicia LaForge



Jennifer and Alicia cut out stars and create a spectacular Sunday School bulletin board. Look for it in the hallway between the Sanctuary and Parish Hall



Adult Choir News

Well, so far, our advertisements for new members to form the Anthem Choir have not drawn any new members. While we are a little disappointed, we continue to patiently wait for school schedules to settle in, etc.!

Remember, the Anthem Choir: wears no robes, sits in the pews until it is time to sing then returns to the pews afterwards and will always sing downstairs. The Anthem Choir does require attendance at Thursday evening rehearsals and pre-service rehearsal on Sunday mornings. This helps us to better worship God and enhance the overall worship experience for the rest of the congregation!

So, it is never too late to join! We have a perfect Anthem Choir anthem coming up in October. It's simple, it's in unison (all voices together) and an easy way to join in! Try it! We think you'll like it! Thursday evenings at 7:30!

Youth Choir News

Yes, it's that time of year again – time to prepare for Advent and Christmas! We will begin Youth Choir rehearsals on October 10 during Sunday School. This

Bell Choir "Notes"

The St. James' Multi-Generational Bell Choir began rehearsals on September 19. The choir was happy to welcome Jewels Quelly and Jim Brandt to the choir. Both have ringing experience. In fact, Jim rang in the St. James' Bell Choir several years ago before I arrived at St. James'. Welcome back to ringing to our two newest members.

At the first rehearsal, a few members tried out risers for the music notebooks and found them very helpful. The risers bring the music up to a better height for reading and may even allow the ringers to

Tricky Tray

The **Tricky Tray** is rapidly approaching on **October 16th**, and while we are all very excited about this fifth annual event, we are only about **a third of our way to our goal of 200 baskets**. You already know that this is the largest fundraiser we have each year and its success depends on the gifts you donate. In the parish hall, there are many beautiful baskets. So stop by, look, and ask questions. There are many, many great ideas for putting baskets together. If you would like some help with an idea or with wrapping a basket, we will be glad to assist. If you would like to make a monetary donation, we will purchase items and create a basket for you. Please make your checks payable to the St. James' FRC and add tricky tray to the memo line of your check. If you have plans for a

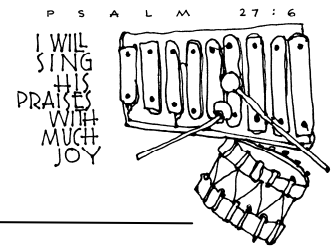
gives all Sunday School children the opportunity to participate in choir without having to find time in busy schedules to come to church on another day to rehearse. Important dates to remember:

Sunday, Dec. 5 – 10 am service – Youth Choir sings their Advent piece as the Anthem in church.

Sunday, Dec. 5 at 4:15 pm - The Youth Choir will participate again this year in the Story of the Nativity Through the Arts Program at the Port Morris United Methodist church. Performers should arrive at Port Morris at 4:15 pm and may leave after they have performed (program starts at 5 pm). Our Youth Choir is always a hit at Port Morris, so don't miss it this year!

Friday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve) – Youth Choir participates in service. More to come on that as the plans for that service are underway!

Pam Laura
Music Director



keep an eye on the director!

Ringers: Please note that there will be **no rehearsal on October 10**.

The choir is currently preparing music for October 24 for the 10:00 service and will shortly begin working on the music for Advent (December 5) and Christmas Eve.

If you are interested in joining us for Advent or Christmas Eve, please call me at 732-807-3211.

Louise Olshan
Director



basket, please let Barbara Olesen, Anne Dutton, Ellen Infante or Barbara White know so that we can add it to our list.

To help with this event, there is a sign up sheet in the parish hall. This is truly a parish event and we need many folks to make it a success. We will need to set up baskets in the parish hall to label and number them on **Friday, October 15th**, before the event, and we will also need a few folks to help transport them to the firehouse on Saturday. Ticket sales, runners, kitchen help and clean up are all areas where you can help.

This is a great event and we have a lot of fun before, during and after the event. Please *join us!*

St. James' "Yarn Twisters"

The St. James' "Yarn Twisters" Knitting/Crocheting Group continues to meet twice monthly. We have gathered a wonderful collection of scarves, caps and vests for the "Christmas at Sea" program. The "Christmas at Sea" program has recently hired a new coordinator, Paige Sato. I have been in contact with Paige as to whether we will deliver our items in person or invite her to visit us at St. James' and meet all of our Yarn Twisters who have been so busy since our start back in the Spring. Our next get together will be Saturday, October 9th at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. We will be completing items and sorting them. We are also collecting the following items to include in the package. If you have any items to donate, please contact Barbara Olesen.

- Unscented, Hypoallergenic Hand Lotion (2-4 oz bottles)
- Sealed Packages of Holiday Sweets
- Books or Activities like Sudoku, word searches, or playing cards
- Facial Tissue
- Microwave Popcorn
- Chewing Gum
- Handmade Christmas Cards
- Gently used men's coats
- National Geographic magazines

All items must be in new and unused condition and in their original packaging. We cannot accept items that are used or unsealed.

Linda Miller

Young Families Group Gathering

Autumn Fun! Build Your Own Scarecrow
 Sunday October 17, 2010
 Right after Coffee Hour
 Mitcham House/Fellowship Hall

\$6 per Adult

\$4 per Child

Please bring a pillow case for your scarecrow's head.

RSVP: Please Sign up on sheet or call

Jewels Quelly 908-689-9530.

Singles Social Gathering (SSG)*

*SSG, which is sponsored by District 1 of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, is a singles group for all single adults age 30 or above. **Everyone** is welcome to attend, no matter what his/her religious affiliation.

Save the Dates:

October 23rd – Local nature walk/hike

November 13th – Newark Museum, Newark, NJ

December 4th – Kristkindmarkt, Bethlehem, PA

December 11th – Festival of Trees, Chester, NJ

News from the Hall Brooks Family

In a letter to Cathy, Philippa Ellis and her family wrote: *I am writing to let you know that my dad, David Hall Brooks, passed away on August 28th. He lived with me for the past five years and always enjoyed receiving your newsletters. Dad's Alzheimer's had progressed slowly...He went into the hospital with pneumonia and was recovering from that when his heart very suddenly failed. I was by his side when it happened and talked to him as he took his final breaths. I sense he is with mum now...Dad always commented on the flowers in the garden and loved watching the birds at the feeders or birdbath...He loved watching the Tour de France, Wimbledon and all the tennis championships on TV...There is an emptiness in the house now and we are very aware of his place at the dinner table... We are thankful, however, that he did not have to endure the worst stages of this insidious disease and that he was able to stay with his family to the end...Please give my regards to the St. James' family. You were all such a special part of Mum and Dad's lives and we are happy to learn that your renovations are moving ahead so successfully.*



Food News

Marge Ames served Raspberry Pecan Bars at Coffee Hour on Sunday, September 26th. Here is her recipe as requested by highly appreciative munchers.

RASPBERRY PECAN BARS:

- 2 cups flour
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup butter
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 10 oz jar raspberry preserves - seedless
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Heat oven to 350. In medium bowl, combine flour, sugar, salt, butter, and vanilla. Beat at slow speed, scraping bowl often, until well combined and mixture resembles small peas. Stir in 1/2 cup pecans. Set aside 3/4 cup mixture.

Press remaining crumb mixture in 8 or 9 inch baking pan. Spread preserves over crumb mixture. Sprinkle with 1/2 cup pecans and reserved mixture.

Bake 35 to 40 minutes until lightly browned and bubbly. Cool completely.

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Tricky Tray

St. James' Yarn Twisters
 Singles Social Gathering
 Young Families Group Gathering

Mystery Dinner Party

October Calendar



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 |