



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS, RECTOR

APRIL 2011

A Season for the Spirit

Each Sunday in Lent at each liturgy, we say the Ten Commandments out loud. It is a good thing to do. I am never prepared for which one in particular might strike my heart from one week to the next. But it is always for sure that number five is a problem for me.

Honor your father and your mother. Being raised by parents who were unable to provide what was necessary for healthy child development, I choke on the words *honor your father and your mother*. They have always been hard to hear, especially when I began my therapy practice and heard too many stories of the neglect and abuse that parents have visited on their children, my clients. There is, of course, recovery and healing, some forgiveness and ability to move on and be healthy despite the horrors that can be visited upon children.



This Lent, I entered into a Lenten study of Martin Smith's *A Season for the Spirit* led by Phyllis Heistand. This book is a series of daily meditations for Lent, helping us to discover that Christ, through the Spirit, embraces every aspect of our humanity. And no matter how firmly I believe in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I was still surprised to see a chapter entitled, "Honor your Father and your Mother." Martin Smith says, "There is a truth about our relationship with our parents which can only be approached by making the strange assertion, 'They are there inside us.' "Unless we can love them there, some part of ourselves will be starved and slighted." He goes on to say that the Christ who brought us love by coming to fulfill the law did not teach perpetual devotion to parents and family, but instead said such things as "I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother... Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me." (Mt10:35, 37) He was trying to teach us about God as our one-and-only Father, with all others who have parental authority over us reduced to second chair.

And here is the gift: when we call only God, "God," we can let go of seeing our parents as divine beings who did not live up to their job descriptions. We can see them as the limited human beings they really are. "Were they tender and caring? Thank God. Were they crazy and cruel? Then if we let Christ take back the divinity with which our infant selves endowed them, we can start dealing with the pain they inflicted on us (as no doubt it had been inflicted on them)." (Smith, p. 77)

The beauty of study in Lent is that it allows us to examine our spiritual journey in a quieter space apart. The gift is that we have a new insight, see something in a new way, shed an old attitude, embrace something new, see the Christ in us and those around us.

It is my prayer that in the remainder of this holy season, you learn that there is nothing that is within us that is outside of God's embrace. And this is the prayer of Martin Smith:



Spirit of God, the truth we need to wrestle with in order to fulfill the commandment to honor father and mother has so many aspects! There is nothing easy here. You are the Creator Spirit. You want me to recognize that my parents were your instruments in making me the utterly unique being that I am. Help me love what they gave me and made of me, and honor my own self which, through them, you made to be a member of Christ's Body. You are the Spirit of truth and love. Help me shed the illusions that prevent me from seeing them as they really were and are, and the conditions I impose on my love for them.

Martin Smith, A Season for the Spirit, p. 78

Yours in the Spirit of Christ,

Cathy+

Wardens' Words

On our recent trip to Germany, Eileen and I did a lot of sightseeing and visited quite a few historic buildings, including castles, churches and cathedrals. We were in awe of these incredible buildings, many of which were built around 1000 years ago. I find it astonishing that the people who designed and built these structures (without cranes, power equipment, computers, etc.) had enough knowledge and skill to make the buildings last a millennium! Most of the churches were enormous, with vaulted ceilings that seemed to reach for the skies. The details found within the cathedrals were amazing; many had marble columns, altars decorated generously with gold leaf, intricate stained glass, and too many stone statues to count. In one cathedral, the Stations of the Cross were stone carvings that measured about 10 feet wide and 10 feet high – with incredible detail! We walked through these places and were just overwhelmed; there was simply no way to see everything! We took many pictures, but it was not possible to capture the immense size and beauty! The picture is of the Apse of the Mannheim Jesuit Church in Germany. Incredible!

Greg Malejko



Thanks to those who participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. It was a little chilly but we marched and promoted our Deaf Ministry by handing out flyers again this year. Our banner was carried by Amelia and Lily Vitalos and they did a great job. Thanks, girls.

Please mark your calendars for the Memorial Day Parade. We need lots of participation in this parade, lots of folks to march with or ride on our float and to give away balloons and candy. This is a fun event for all of us so please plan on helping out.

While on retreat, the Vestry decided that our primary focus this year would be on church growth. During our retreat, each one of us told a story about how we came to St. James'. Whether we are here because our significant other was already here, or if we were searching for a church community, or if we just happened upon St. James', the end of the story was the same for each of us. We all found the Spirit of God alive and well at St. James'; the warm, friendly, inviting community made and continues to make us feel welcome. We do many things right at St. James' but making our visitors feel welcome, well I can't imagine any place that does it better.

Roping off one side of the church is one way of reminding us all that we have lots of room for growth. There is plenty of space for your neighbors, friends, co-workers, family and acquaintances to come and share this treasure.

It is the Episcopal Church's mission as God's people to "restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ".

The vestry is asking you to make a commitment this year to inviting and getting one person to church. The rest is up to God.

Sharing our own experiences can be a powerful tool in helping others become more comfortable talking about church with others. I invite you to share your story with the congregation. If you are interested, please contact me by email or by phone at 908-798-0928 so that we can talk about it.

Invite a friend to Church!

Barbara White

*Preach the Gospel at all times;
if necessary, use words.
St Francis of Assisi*

Eileen, Tom and Greg Malejko in Germany where Tom is now stationed after graduation from West Point

Vestry retreat is an annual experience for St. James' elected leaders to gather for fellowship, formation of their team into the body of Christ, and a time apart to consider ministry and mission. This is a summary of our work together.

WHAT ARE SOME THINGS WE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE PAST YEAR?

(not an exhaustive list)

kitchen completed	mediation completed
sabbatical	exploring new modes in CMS (database)
new website	coffee service
Yarn Twisters	music guide in bulletin
gutter guard installed	more press releases
new Parish Administrator	office volunteers
shed for lawn mower	summer music
summer backpack program	lights on steps Mitcham House
basement vent system	fixed roof leak in PH
step outside PH rear exit	new counting procedures
sound panels	new counters
new children in Sunday School	expansion of backpack program
new coordinators & teachers in SS	youth & family activities
seminarian	Superbowl party
blood drive	scarecrow making
golf outing new venue	new leaders
new acolytes	hall rental
procedure manual begun	change in asset allocation
Ward J Herbert application	advertising in Warren Reporter
Bible study	staff recognition

WHAT ARE SOME HOPES AND DREAMS YOU HAVE FOR THE NEXT YEAR?

podcast of service	van for transport – to church, rides home
improve lighting in loft	coffee area cabinets / water source
STEEPLE!	kitchen shelves / backsplash
front porch replacement	new prayer books/hymnals
use of Parish Hall for revenue	planned giving
finish lower level	more leaders, more involvement
dishwasher in kitchen	wish list fulfilled
potluck dinners / with speaker	review of focus group feedback
website opt-in for email	<i>(from parish development process)</i>
columbarium promotion	community events focused on interest group
	<i>(young families, seniors, 'the rest of us')</i>

WHAT ARE SPECIFIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2011?

Our goal this year is parish growth, both in new members and increased involvement of present members.

To encourage all members to invite and bring someone to church in the next year



- † we have all found something of great value at St. James' and will share this with the congregation
- † we believe St. James' is a community we wish to share with others
- † we all know someone who does not go to church
- † consider inviting that person to something (coffee, lunch, conversation, a church event like breakfast or a dinner), and then inviting them to church

continued on page 4

SPECIFIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2011 *continued from page 3*

To give members an opportunity to join in parish growth by knowing each other and creating opportunities to interact and serve.

- † **Welcome:** to improve our welcome to guests and visitors to church, we will create a special ministry of “Greeter” to help us know each other better through the use of our nametags in church and at coffee hour, and to follow up with visitors to continue our welcome.
- † **Promotion:** to continue the work of the Publicity Committee to make our activities known in the community; to develop a group of writers to compose press releases and invitations.
- † **Activity:** to bring plans for activities and events to reality; to carry out the work of the Parish Life Committee.

Vestry members will take leadership of these areas and ask for others to join them. You can also let any Vestry member know that you are interested in a specific area.

Greg Malejko, Senior Warden

Barbara White, Junior Warden

Class of 2012:

Ron Cipriani
DJ Hoffman
Paula Van Clef

Class of 2013:

Dave Handville
Dan Miller
Peter Quelly

Class of 2014:

David Bernauer
David Jenkins
Roy Smith

Our Mission:

St. James' is an open, inclusive, and caring faith community that embraces diversity and celebrates the joy of Christ.

April Dates to Remember

- April 3 Family Breakfast between services • 9:00 AM
- April 3 Confirmation class “Prayer” • Great Hall • 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- April 4 Golf Committee meeting • Mitcham House • 7:30 PM
- April 9 Visit to the Seamen’s Church Institute • Port Newark, 11 AM to 2 PM
- April 17-24 Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday schedules on page 5

Coming Up in May

- May 1 Family Breakfast • 9:00 AM
- May 8 Mother’s Day
- May 14 Spring Rummage Sale • 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- May 22 Celebration of Children’s Sabbath • Sunday School yearend party
- May 22 Confirmation • Trinity and St. Philip’s Cathedral • 3:00 PM
- May 23 Golf Outing • Farmstead Golf Club, Lafayette • 12 PM registration
1:00 PM tee

May 30 Memorial Day Parade

Coming Up in June

- June 11 EAM Car Wash • Skylands Bank parking lot • 10 AM to 3 PM
- June 19 Parish Picnic at Independence Field of Dreams • Father’s Day

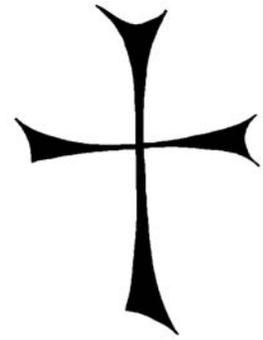
An updated and **current church calendar** can be found at <http://stjameshackettstown.org> - a very useful feature!



In the holiest week of the Christian year, we enter the drama of Christ's last week on earth. We know you will want to participate in your own faith community, and we invite you to be our guest at other worship opportunities we offer:

Sunday, April 18 – 8:00 and 10:00 AM

Palm Sunday commemorates the triumphal entrance of Jesus into the city of Jerusalem. At the 10 AM service, we remember his journey with a neighborhood procession with palms and singing. The altar is hung with red to commemorate the passion of Jesus. Members of the congregation read the story of the passion. We shout, "Crucify him!" with the crowd. As we leave the church, we sing, "At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow..." affirming our belief that in life and in death, he is Lord.



Wednesday in Holy Week, April 20 – Tenebrae

In the quiet of the church, we read by candlelight the story of God's redemption. As the night progresses, the candles are extinguished and we remember the darkness of the tomb in which Jesus was buried.

Maundy Thursday, April 21 – Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing

Jesus celebrates the Passover with his disciples with a meal. Then he does a strange thing: he takes on the role of a servant and washes their feet. The altar is stripped of all decoration and the reserved sacrament is removed to the chapel for the Maundy Thursday Vigil. Choir and organ echo the solemn mood.

Maundy Thursday Vigil (in the Chapel) –April 21 - 22

We pray and meditate in silence in the presence of the sacrament of the body of Christ. We heed Christ's words, "Could you not watch with me one brief hour?" Members of St. James' sign up to keep vigil each hour of the night from 9:00 pm until noon on Friday. Please enter the chapel via the Moore Street chapel door.

Good Friday, April 22 - Community Ecumenical Service 12:00 noon

We pray the Good Friday Liturgy together as a community and listen to God's word to us. We read the story of the last hours of the life of Jesus the Christ. The musical accompaniment of the organ helps us know we *were* there when they crucified our Lord.

Good Friday, April 22 – Stations of the Cross – *new time* - 5:30 PM

We walk with Jesus on his last journey to the cross, stopping on the way to remember those who beat and mocked him, those who helped him, and those who grieved. Led by the young people of the Youth Group; good for children.

Holy Saturday, April 23 - Chapel Service 12 NOON

Simple prayers and reflection on the day Christ spent in the place of the dead.

Easter Eve, April 23 - The Great Vigil of Easter 7:30 PM

The first celebration of the resurrection, held after sundown on Saturday. The service begins in darkness. We light new fire for the Paschal (Easter) Candle, which celebrates resurrection. We hear the story of God's grace through history, and we bring back the joy postponed for the season of Lent, with alleluias and the ringing of the bells. (Bring any kind of bell to ring!) Organ and choir lead our praises. We celebrate baptism and first communion for children.

Easter Day, April 24 – Holy Eucharist 8 AM and 10 AM

We celebrate a festive Holy Eucharist with great rejoicing and the *alleluias* return! Organ, bell choir (introit and anthem), and children's choir lead the celebration.

*Alleluia! Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed; Alleluia*



We wish you a blessed Easter!

Youth Group to read prayers

After hearing the story of the seamen from Chaplain Megan Sanders in December, the Youth Group decided that we need to pray for people who are usually “invisible” to us. On April 3rd, they begin a first Sunday of the month reading of the Prayers of the People with special remembrance of people like gardeners, caregivers and seamen and women.

Visit The Seamen’s Church Institute

Tour a ship and visit The Seamen’s Church Institute at Port Newark on Saturday, April 9 from 11 AM to 2 PM. We will be treated to lunch and car pools will leave from St. James’. Sign up in the church office, at coffee hour, or email Frances Keefe, Parish Administrator

www.st.james214@comcast.net

Sunday School News

This year’s Sunday School class includes a great group of children and dedicated teachers. 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.

During March, we had several interesting lessons for the children, including an introduction to Lent and a discussion of St. Patrick. The children worked on a project to prepare care packages for the parish’s college kids. Also, Pam Laura has begun working with the children to prepare a special song for Easter, which the children will perform in Church. The children are excited that they will be signing the song in addition to singing, as they did for the Christmas song.

We are looking forward to some great activities this spring, including helping to prepare Easter food baskets for families in need and getting ready for the Children’s Sabbath at the end of May.

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

Sunday School Schedule

- April 3rd Family Sunday (no Sunday School)
- April 10th Lesson – Jesus the King
- April 17th Lesson – Easter
- April 24th Easter Sunday (no Sunday School)

Alicia LaForge



A big shout of THANKS to ShopRite in Chester for donating 1,000 bags to our Back Pack program. Please support the Chester Shoprite in return for their generosity and say thanks to Scott Holds for this wonderful donation. It should take us to the end of the school year.

Please note that all ShopRite stores are not owned by the same company.

Support Your Local Food Pantry

In April, we will be collecting canned meat and dinners – Spam, tuna, chicken, stew for example - for Trinity's Food Pantry. There are collection containers in the Parish Hall lobby and the hallway by the entrance into the sanctuary.

The 30 Hour Famine totals are in!

Fourteen young people from St. James' and St. Mary's raised a total of **\$1301.72** for World Vision to feed hungry children in Haiti! What an awesome job the young people and their advisors did! We thank again our own crew: Carol Novrit, Mary Ann Simmons, Rod Perez-Vega, Melissa Vitalos and Linda Ayres. This brings our ten year total of funds raised to **\$12,912.72!**



Above: Confirmation class considers questions in small groups;
Below: Confirmation class learns about ministry from those who live it



Senior Choir News

With Easter just a few weeks away now, the Senior Choir is busy preparing music for Palm Sunday, Easter Vigil, and, of course, Easter Day! If you were thinking of singing with the Choir for Easter now is the time to come to rehearsals! The anthems are easy to learn and more voices means more fun! It is never too late to join! Try it! We think you'll like it. Thursday evenings at 7:30 in the church!

The Senior Choir will also start singing all its anthems downstairs, even though we currently have no Anthem Choir members, (which is why we have continued to sing most anthems upstairs). Maybe if you see us, you'll want to join us?

General Music Notes

During Lent, we are using hymn 628 as our sequence hymn every week, rather than having a different sequence hymn each week. The text of this hymn asks us to open our hearts to God's teaching which makes it a very appropriate hymn to be sung just before the Gospel reading.

The Bell Choir will provide the music during the offering collection on 4/3 and also play a hand bell accompaniment to our Lenten Communion hymn today (Sunday, 4/3). Another way our Bell Choir augments and enhances our worship! You will hear them play again on Maundy Thursday and as an Introit for both Easter Day services.

In the Easter season, we will be returning to some familiar Service Music settings instead of using hymns for the Song of Praise, Sanctus, and Fraction Anthem.

Youth Choir News

The Youth Choir is hard at work on their piece for Easter, "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright". They sang this song last year as well but this year they are signing the song as well as singing it! They will sing their anthem during the offering collection at the 10am Easter service (only).

Pam Laura
Music Director

Bell Choir "Notes"

The Bell Choir had a two week vacation in March while the director was enjoying her vacation. The choir is now ready to participate in the 10:00 service on April 3 with a beautiful arrangement of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross". The piece starts with the melody in the upper bells. When the melody moves to the lower bells, the upper bells are placed on the tables and struck gently with mallets. The effect is very moving and reminds me of the nailing of Christ to the Cross. The Bell Choir will also join with the congregation for the Communion hymn "Dona Nobis Pacem".

What a great group of people are in the Bell Choir! When asked if they would be willing to ring on Maundy Thursday and at the 8:00 service on Easter, the answers were yes. The choir is so willing to share their time to enhance the worship experience at St. James'. I thank them for their dedication and commitment.

On Easter the choir is planning on doing the Introit and also doing an anthem at both services. We hope that our work will be enjoyed by the congregation.

Louise Olshan
Bell Choir Director

Lenten Observances

During Lent, we are having a Bible study after the Chapel Service on Thursday evening. A parable from the Bible is discussed and broken down for all to understand. It is an informal gathering and very informative. We hope to see you there.

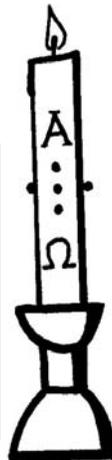
I would also like to suggest that if you would like to have a deeper experience of Lent, make an effort to attend the special services offered during Holy Week. This is the holiest week of the church year. I urge you to come to at least one or two of these very different services. The teaching, feelings and the Passion of the Lord are here to share and to be a part of. This is what church is all about.

Ellen Infante

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

stjameshackettstown.org

An updated and current church calendar is one of the many useful features on St. James' Webpage.



May Journal articles due

Tuesday, April 26

Phyllis Heistand, Editor
Cathy Deats, News for St. James'
and all the writers, reporters and
photographers

David Heistand, proofreader, printer
Marge Ames & Heath Village Team, assemblers

Email pdheistand@comcast.net

To sign up for Email-Journal, contact
pdheistand@comcast.net

Fundraising

Thanks to everyone for coming out to IHOP on Shrove Tuesday. We had our largest crowd ever! Forty-three folks joined us and we made \$85.00. Our St. Patrick's Day dinner was a huge success this year. We raised \$676.00. Thanks so much to all the volunteers who worked so hard preparing the dinner this year: Paul and Phyllis Bartkus for the corned beef and cabbage, Ellen Infante for the carrots, Peg Faust for the potatoes and homemade applesauce and Peg's daughter, Denise Bach for the homemade Irish Soda bread. It was delicious. This event is growing in its popularity and turning into a very nice event for us. We served about sixty-five people this year. Thank you to all the wonderful folks who helped decorate, set up, serve, collect money and clean up. It was truly a parish event.

With winter trying to hang on for what seems like forever this year, we have decided to wait until May for the spring rummage sale. The date is Saturday, May 14th from 10 AM to 4 PM. Your slightly used treasures can be dropped off at the Parish Hall anytime between now and then. Please place your donations downstairs in the basement. For this sale, we are putting signs in the basement to help us sort donations. If possible, it would be extremely helpful if you could sort your donations. Areas will be identified as children's clothing, men's clothing, women's clothing, kitchen wares, knick-knacks, bags, shoes, toys and holiday decorations. Please remember that we cannot accept electronics, including TV's and computer components or books for our rummage sale. It would also be helpful if puzzles and board games were taped closed so that we can be sure no pieces are lost.

Our 3rd Annual Golf Outing is scheduled for Monday, May 23rd, at Farmstead Golf Course. Please mark your calendars and invite your friends.

We will schedule our EAM car wash for Saturday, June 11th. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to come out and help us wash some cars in support of our annual trip to Appalachia. The location will be the Skylands Community Bank's parking lot between 10 AM and 3 PM.

Thanks to all for your continued support.

Invite a friend to Church!

Barbara White



3rd Annual St. James' Golf Outing

The 3rd annual St. James' Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 23 at Farmstead Golf Club in Newton, starting with check-in and lunch at noon with play beginning at 1 PM. We will be using the same format as in previous years, and are hoping to attract even more golfers and sponsors at this new location. The cost will be \$100 a player or \$30 if just joining for dinner. This year, we are introducing the "St. James' Challenge" by inviting other parishes in the area to join in the fun on the golf course by sending a team (or 2).



Hole sponsorships will be offered and along with various prizes, a 50/50 raffle. If you are a golfer, what are you waiting for?

Registration begins in early April! Details and other information will be appearing shortly – but mark your calendars now!!

Contact any one of the golf outing committee (Phyllis & Paul Bartkus, Meg Critchley, Dan Miller or Barbara White) for questions or if you want to help out with the event.

Dan Miller

Yarn Twisters

The Yarn Twisters are getting back into the groove this year, despite setbacks with the weather and other events. We are looking forward to the trip to the Seamen's Church Institute on Saturday, April 9th. It sounds like it is going to be a good visit for those who have signed up. We will continue to meet twice a month – an alternate Thursday evening and Saturday morning. Please check the online calendar and Church bulletin for information. If you are interested in joining our group, please contact me at frlbailey1@comcast.net

We are also still collecting the following items to include in the 2011 package. There is a blue plastic barrel in the Great Hall for donations:

- 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

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

More Photos!

David Handville and Barbara White make more room for welcome in the Sanctuary



Left to right: St. Patrick's Day Dinner: Kathy Lacouture, Anne Dutton and Phyllis Bartkus, diners Kathy Jacopy and son Danny Duda; Family Breakfast: Matthew and Eileen Malejko, Breakfast cooks, the Quellys, Isaac, Pete, Jewels and Millie, food(!), helpers Brian Nolan and Meredith Firmin; Helping hands of Barbara Olesen at confirmation class with Danny and sister, Rebecca; and a visit from a Leprechaun on St. Patrick's Day aka Jeannette Hile, Chaplain at HOTGS, with Cathy, Phyllis Heistand and Frances Keeffe (picture taker). Other photos courtesy of Cathy Deats and Paul Barkus

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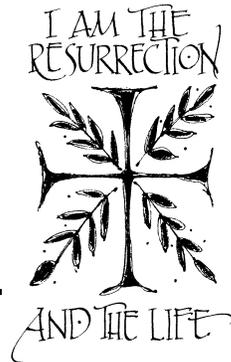
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April and May Calendars

St James' Staff & Vestry

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

Vestry:

David Bernauer Ron Cipriani
Dave Handville DJ Hoffman
David Jenkins Dan Miller
Peter Quelly Roy Smith III
Paula Van Clef



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