



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS,

RECTOR

I don't much like the pottery studio in summer. It's because of the "summer students," people who want to try out the art of pottery for a couple of months. Beginners. They leave clay in the sink and put things back where they don't belong (when they put them away). The rhythm of the studio is disrupted. They sit at "my" wheel. They use so much of the teacher's time that there is not enough for me.

We are all, to some extent, creatures of habit. When familiar routines are disrupted, it makes us uncomfortable, and sometimes annoyed or even angry. Even those of us who say we don't mind change resist it. Whether it is taking a different route home because of a detour, getting a new boss, or facing the retirement of a favorite physician, change does disrupt our lives.

At the same time, change is the undisputed dance partner of growth. Growth does not happen without change, and often does not happen without pain. When my son was a young teenager, he suffered serious pain in his legs. I was shocked when the doctor pronounced them "growing pains." They *do* exist, and growing pains remind us not only of the link between growth and change, but between growth and pain.

Our community is actively engaged in a purposeful cycle of growth and change. We know that any church that stays the same will die, and any church not actively engaged in doing God's mission with the resources they have in the places they have been called will die as well. And so our work of growth now is centered on extending our leadership range to more people; some would call it "flattening the structure" in a manner similar to the way The Episcopal Church may be heading as it strives to reform the structure of the organizational church. At St. James, people are being invited to take part in more of our mission and ministry, even as exciting new possibilities have presented themselves: the Backpack Program, sharing space and possibly ministry with the El Shaddai Church, and Believe Out



Loud, a revival of the ministry of the Oasis, of which St. James' has been a part since it began in 1991. As exciting as this all is, there will still be struggle and even resistance. We have worries and questions: as we grow larger, will we lose our ability to be pastorally present for each other? will there be enough care to go around? where will the money come from? will we lose our identity – however we define it other than the body of Christ, and his hands and feet in this world?

Yet, I am convinced there is no other way: the church will grow and change along with the call of God or it will surely die. For us, this means an intensely exciting time of new ideas, new energy, and new personalities to join in the work. People may want to do things in a way that is different than the ways we have already done them. The structure and communication we used to do our work before will be strained until it can grow into something more effective for the awesome mission and ministry that are happening in this place.

I noticed something else about the "summer students" in my pottery class. I noticed some had a creativity I don't possess. It inspired me to new design. When they struggled with trimming, I lent them my favorite trim tool. Their stories reflected journeys I could identify with. And when I was finally able to make room for them at the sink, our routines became more of a dance.

And there will always be enough for everyone: enough space, enough care, enough love and enough grace.

Yours in the dance,

Cathy+

Warden's Notes

WE WELCOME BACK PHYLLIS HEISTAND as our Journal editor and thank God for her return and for her continued good health. We also thank the office: Rod, Cathy, and Linda for picking up the slack while Phyllis was recuperating. Rod especially stepped up and produced several great Journals. A most sincere thank you, Rod!

These past couple of months, we have embarked on a community growth campaign and the results so far have been encouraging. It is great to see more and more folks becoming involved and taking more active roles in the many activities of our church. Ideas have been flying on how to do things and it is very exciting. I can only pray that the spirit continues to touch people in such a way that they want to be more involved. We are searching for a couple of folks to lead our youth group. If you have any desire to volunteer for this important ministry please speak with Rod or Cathy.

Barbara White
Senior Warden

I COMPLETED MY FIRST TRIATHLON this past July 8th. I would have never even considered entering such as an event except that a group of high school buddies (all novices like me) and I convinced us it was the perfect way to celebrate our collective 50th birthdays! The race: 1/2 mile swim, 16-mile bike, 3 mile run. Our goal: to finish. I was far from ready. I had not run in years. But, encouraged by my friends, and inspired by my little sister (a triathlon veteran), I started my training in late March. I bought a bike and started riding and running up and down Mt. Rascal Road on the border of Independence and Hackettstown, as well the trails at River Park. I started at 6 AM before I left for work.

But then there was the swim. I never considered swimming a sport. To me, "swimming" was a quick dip as a way to cool down on a hot summer day. I joined the West Morris YMCA around mid-May and would check-in at 6:30 am on my way to work and try to do the crawl stroke for an hour. It was terrifying and exhausting. The chlorine smell, the noises, my complete incompetence amidst all the retirees (who had a lifetime of experience in the water doing laps) was intimidating.

The day of the race I still had not mastered the crawl and was resigned to getting by with the slow but reliable breaststroke. I was still terrified. I could not see anything without my glasses. All I saw was fleshy blobs with colorful caps everywhere. The course which was marked with big red buoys looked impossibly long. But there was no turning back. I clung close to my friends as guides and we jumped in the water together.

But then, bobbing in the 10 feet of water waiting for the start, something akin to a wave passed over me, something that almost seemed to have a spiritual presence and it gave me great comfort. What was I worrying about? I was together with my dearest lifelong friends, the 8 AM sun was bright and beautiful, the lake was pristine calm and the water warm. And I was prepared...I was in the best shape of my life. In an instant, all my fears melted away and I finally felt ready to go with confidence.

When the horn went off, the strong swimmers bolted out of my sight. I confidently did my breaststroke with a smile on my face. I slowly but steadily made my way from buoy to buoy.... step-by-step.

I exited the water after 23 minutes feeling exhilarated and blessed to have something "touch me" that had conquered my fears. I ran to the transition area to get my bike with an amazing feeling of accomplishment and proceeded to pass every biker and runner I encountered for the next 19 miles. I finished 184 out of 355 overall and 26th out of 56 among men ages 50-54. I exceeded my goal of merely finishing the race.

The lesson: fear and doubt can be overcome by gathering all the resources needed, preparing ahead and not giving up. God will take it from there.

David Lacouture
Junior Warden



Dave is happy to be out of the lake



Family Breakfast September 16th

Family Breakfast will be served between the 8 and 10 AM services from 9 AM to 10 AM in the Great Hall.

Come join us for breakfast! Enjoy a hot and delicious breakfast, prepared for us by chef DJ and his team, and the company of old and new friends. It's a great day and way to invite newcomers to St. James' for breakfast and church services.

St. James' has entered into a trial agreement with the El Shaddai Church for use of the sanctuary and Great Hall. El Shaddai is a church community in the Assembly of God tradition and they worship in the Spanish language. We welcome their pastor, Rosa Zelaya, and members to our space!

Cathy+

Pizza and Movie Night

People of all ages making pizza

... "have it your way!"... sampling others' creations... *Madagascar* for the little (and not so little) ones... popcorn too (after pizza??)... energetic planning for the continued growth of St. James'... lots of new ideas... stay tuned!



Farewell to Dawn and Ed Modugno

We said farewell to Dawn and Ed Modugno in July. Their fingerprints are all over St. James' youth given space to learn and have conversation, the Great Hall, doors of the parish hall, painting, weeding, dinners, office work and in general doing whatever was needed at the time. We were blessed to have Dawn on Vestry and as Warden. We will truly miss this couple who showed us clearly and without fanfare what it means to be a disciple. You may send greetings to them at:

Dawn and Ed Modugno
1485 Harold Patterson Rd
Dandridge TN 37725 or dzmodugno@gmail.com
Dawn reflected on her first days in her new home in an email to me :

Cathy+

Ed has gotten the permit for the new shop (one page verses the NJ 5-10) and we are looking into a well. I can't handle the city water--yuck! You can

smell the chlorine when you wash dishes. We are double filtering right now. Hope to start the new garden beds this week and get a tractor. It is beautiful here. We have breakfast on the front porch most mornings with the flowers, bumblebees and hummingbirds. Maybe 2-3 cars go by. Amy is adapting well to having parents again. When her friend asked her how it was to have us around again, she said, "It's great, the food is amazing!" I guess that is the result of a year of cooking for one. We walk the dogs along the front field and back down into the woods and by the stream and spring once or twice a day.

Well, I am thinking of you and grateful for everything I learned from you and what a blessing you have been for all of us and St. James'. God was looking out for all of us.

Love and hugs,

Dawn

With Thanks Giving for all the Prayers of St. James'

Prayer Ministry

As the patient and not the pray-er (as I usually am) getting this email was a great boost.

Thank you, Barbara, for sending this out. It means so much to me to know that I am in the thoughts and prayers of those involved in the prayer ministry. Keep the prayers coming for all of us on the list. I strongly believe in the power of prayer. I missed everyone this morning. And really miss food.

Louise

Baptism

Rhonda and I wanted to thank you and everyone at the church for Shea's baptism yesterday. All of our friends and family commented on how beautiful the ceremony was, as well as how welcomed they felt as visitors to the church...thank you for all you've done!

Rhonda and George Lysiak, and Shea Elaine

Thank you

Bill and I and our extended family wish to thank the entire St James' congregation for the prayers that were recently offered during Sunday services and by the Prayer Ministry for our grandnephew, Lucas.

Due to serious maternal complications my niece was airlifted from her home in Kigali, Rwanda to Johannesburg, South Africa on June 5, 2012. Within hours of her arrival, Lucas Benjamin Besant-McNally was born nine weeks premature weighing just under two pounds and with a name bigger than he was! After a few ups and downs in the NICU, he went home to his parents on August 10th at the hefty weight of 4 pounds 10 ounces. Lucas and his parents will remain in South Africa until his passport arrives and then the beginning family can return home to Rwanda.

Meg Critchley

News from the larger Anglican Communion

South Africa and Lesotho — commemorates 20 years since the ordination of women to the priesthood as presbyters and bishops. The 1992 synod was, coincidentally, held in Swaziland.

- Wamukoya was not initially a candidate, but after seven rounds of elections yielding no results, fresh nominations were invited from the Elective Assembly. She subsequently received the required two-thirds majority in both houses of laity and clergy.
- The assembly was described by one observer as a “particularly spirit-filled atmosphere” and there is said to be much excitement in the diocese over her over her election.
- Wamukoya is currently chaplain at the University of Swaziland and St. Michael's High School in Manzini, Swaziland. She also serves as chief executive officer of the City Council in Manzini.
- The election has to be confirmed by the members of the Synod of Bishops. When that happens, Wambukoya will become the 24th non-retired female bishop of the Anglican Communion.
- As there are several other dioceses of Anglican Church of Southern Africa electing bishops before the end of the year, it is likely there will be one big consecration service for them all, early next year.

[Episcopal News Service]

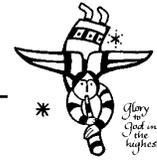
<http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens/2012/07/19/first-female-anglican-bishop-for-africa-elected/>



Financial Stewardship in and around the office

Moving our phone service from Vonage to Comcast will realize a \$200+ savings per year.

Our membership in causes.com realized a donation of \$250 (before fees of \$12) for the Backpack Program; this is a way to promote our ministries to the larger community. Folks who donate may not be churchgoers, may not live in our area, but are interested in supporting our work. These folks find us on our website and facebook. Thanks to the Promotions Committee!



The Quelly family's practice of Stewardship

From the Rector: I asked the Quellys to tell their stewardship story in response to what happened on Millie's birthday, which was a Sunday and the day after the Appalachian Team arrived home. I discovered before the service began that Millie had decided to use her birthday money to buy four jars of peanut butter and 4 packs of crackers for the backpack program. My homily was from the Gospel of John, in which the people asked Jesus, "What must we do to perform the works of God." The preacher is sometimes given the message to step aside, and let God speak directly.

At St. James', we practice stewardship all the time. As stewards of our time, we pack food bags for hungry children, give gifts at Christmas, and teach our young people about what discipleship is about. As stewards of our talents, we fix and paint, serve dinner and teach, do office work and analyze financial reports, organize events and spread the word. As we prepare to enter the season of financial stewardship, when we focus on all that God has given us materially and make a financial commitment to the work of St. James' in building the kingdom of God, consider how one family approaches how to raise children to be good financial stewards.

Cathy+

Jewels on Household Finances

Many years ago, I read several self-help books about household finances. I wish I could remember which book our approach came from, but there were a lot of books (I love finance and economics.). From that book, we adapted the strategy of paying our children a weekly allowance equal to their age. We started allowance when Isaac (who will be 17 in September) was 5. I remember starting Millie when she was 4, and she has just turned 9. Initially, that money was to be divided evenly in 3 ways: Charity, Savings, and Spending, each with its own envelope. Each child organically started rerouting the money into a 4th category. Isaac had what he called "black box" which was still free to spend, but he'd save it up for a bigger goal, such as a trip to an amusement park that we knew was coming up. Millie's category is Vacation. Here are the answers to FAQs:

- We do not give our children money based on their chore list (like a traditional paycheck) because our goal was about budgeting. Trust me, they have chores and they do them and then some. We make sure.
- From the 'free' money comes school lunches they choose to pay for (usually once per week) and gifts for birthday parties for their friends, etc.
- Charity money does not just get spent on church. Isaac donated to the Red Cross on 9/11 and has donated to a marathon his cousin was running for cancer. We matched both these donations; it just feels good to support this kind of giving.
- We wanted our children to begin their financial life from a place of abundance. Yes, they do run out of money. Once in a while we bail them out. And, even though they know allowance is coming, they DO feel squeezed, at times, and that is okay. They need to also be able to live with discomfort, just not terror over money.
- At age 15, Isaac's allowance was capped. He also got a job and then allowance was reduced. It was during this time that Ike got his own checking account and ATM card and began pledging at church.
- As college and car approaches, we're talking about budgets to plan ahead so hopefully we won't have to talk about budgeting to put out fires.

September Dates to Remember

- Sept 6 Last Theology and a Cold Drink Thursdays 7 PM/GH
 Sept 9 Welcome / Greeters and Ushers meeting, 9 AM)
 (between the services)
 Sept 9 Resume two Services 8AM Eucharist & 10AM Eucharist
 Sept 13 Thursday evening Chapel service 7:00PM-Lady Chapel
 Sept 16 Homecoming Sunday – **Open House, Open Doors**
 Family Breakfast (come join us for breakfast!) served between the services from 9AM-10AM

New Jersey Senior Housing for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind

I announced about this group during services in August. We also had a petition in support to be signed. Specifically NJ Senior Housing is needing financial support from HUD. HUD has provided funds for other special need groups but is denying this effort. Only a few other states offer this housing. The hope is to bring it to NJ, to be built in Morris County.

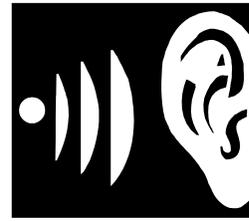
Lila Taylor is the Chairperson and Lucinda Brooks is co-chair and planning chair. I am a member representing the Association of Late Deafened Adults-Garden State. The mission statement is "The NJ Committee on Senior Housing for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind will build an adult residence, a facility free of physical and communication barriers, specifically designed to meet the cultural and linguistic needs of these diverse communities". The goals are to provide safe and comfortable living adapted for this specific group.

We plan to help Seniors learn about the newest assisted listening and communication equipment. The housing will provide apartments as equal in quality as the general public with the addition of communication access. Residents will improve the quality of their lives by visual and auditory oriented activities and other activities that are hearing loss friendly and offer social opportunities.

For the hearing members of St. James', let me lead you into a home: When you press the front door bell button, lights will flash in the resident's apartment. They will see who is ringing the bell on a screen. This will also happen at their front door. If you want to communicate when visiting using electronic aids, the outlets for equipment are there. If you go to bed, you can count on being able to wake up because you will have a flashing light to help you. When you go to a housing meeting, no one is left out of communication because people can communicate and equipment is provided for those who need it. All this provides the quality of life that hearing people take for granted.

I especially want to thank Linda Deloreto for her support by putting information on facebook and the Hackettstown web site. There are folders at church to give you more information and contact and donation forms. I stand with the deaf! Come and join me!

Sheila Shuford, Deacon



Greystone Retirement

In July I retired from eight years at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital. I interned there for my Clinical Pastoral Education. In 2004, I became a paid chaplain for deaf patients after I was ordained as a deacon in 2006. Because I was born hearing, became hard of hearing and then profoundly deaf, I could relate to a wide variety of communication with patients. My own signing is Pidgin which combines the structure of English with American Sign Language signs. The patients' communications ranged from finger spelling to PSE to ASL to mime. On one occasion when a patient was not responsive, I signed, "if you can understand me, wink". And he winked! Every day brought new problems and new solutions. It was always interesting.

I am grateful for eight years of my life journey spent at Greystone. I want to thank the Rev. Dr. Howard Whitaker who took me on and trained me. I thank the Rev. Emily Hall for her support. I thank the good people of St. James' who donated Bibles for the deaf unit. Most of all, I thank God for giving this unexpected opportunity to be a chaplain and deacon while being a servant to this population.

Sheila Shuford

Sunday School News

Godly Play lessons will be taught by Miss Jenn and Miss Alicia every Sunday except for Family Sunday (the first Sunday of the month). On September 16th, Homecoming Sunday, registration will take place and the teachers will be on hand to share materials from Godly Play. Please stop by the Parish Hall to register your children and see what we do each Sunday. Then on September 23rd at 10am, we will hold our first lesson. Juice and snack donations will be needed.

We are in need of volunteers to teach or assist one Sunday a month, or just substitute as needed. No experience necessary! Please call Alicia LaForge (908.813.9855) or see Jenn and Alicia on the 16th if you can lend a hand once a month for an hour and a half.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN SEPTEMBER!!!!

Jennifer Howlin and Alicia Laforge

Yarn Twisters



The Yarn Twisters group has been relatively quiet this year, so many activities going on. However, even though we are a small group these days, we continue to meet when schedules allow and are adding to the bin in the closet slowly and steadily. We do not have dates set for September, so please watch the calendar or if you are interested in attending a Yarn Twister session, either email me at frlbailey1@comcast.net or call me at 908-684-3566 for dates. New patterns are available on the *Christmas at Sea* website ... www.seamenschurch.org - check them out!

The following items can be collected during the year. There is a blue plastic barrel in the Great Hall for donations. Thank you to those donating – the Barrel is quite full!

- 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

Thank you,
Linda Miller

Youth Group

St. James' Youth Group will resume activities on Sunday September 23, 2012, gathering on the second floor of Mitcham House during the 10 a.m. service. Registrations for all youth from 7th to 12th grade will take place on Homecoming Day Sunday September 16, 2012, before and after the 10 a.m. service.

This year as we incorporate new conversations to our program, and participate with Youth from our Diocese and from our community in various activities and missions, we welcome Mr. Dave Lacouture to group's leadership team. Be on the lookout for a letter going to both youth and parents in the next couple of weeks, providing more details of the exciting new year ahead of us.

We look forward to seeing all of you September 16 and September 23.

Rod Perez-Vega & Dave Lacouture

North Porch

Do you love cute little babies and toddlers? Do you remember sweet days with your own children? Wasn't it also a bit hectic? Maybe you were tired and overwhelmed. Imagine the stress if you were homeless? What would you do if you ran out of diapers? Formula?

North Porch Women and Infant's Centers was founded in 1984 to help desperate women through emergency situations, providing seven-day supplies of formula, diapers, baby food, clothing, bed linens and other supplies. The name reflects the custom of the ancient church to regard the "north porch" as a refuge and gathering place for women. Initially begun in Newark, North Porch now has bases in Paterson, Dover and satellite centers in Wharton and here in Hackettstown at St. James'.

Our Hackettstown center coordinator Laura De la Cabada has been a frequent volunteer at our Summer Backpack program. Many of our backpack clients also have needs for their young babies. Jointly we have been able to extend the reach for North Porch and provide a necessary service to the community.

North Porch welcomes financial and item donations. Their needs are regularly posted on their Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthPorch> or web page <http://www.northporch.org>. Volunteers are always welcome to help sort and maintain inventory supplies. Contact North Porch Program Director Jayne Murphy-Morris at 973-537-0392 or email at: jaynewucc@gmail.com



**St. James' at EAM 2012
Appalachian Reflections**

Episcopal Appalachia Ministries

This was by far my best week in Appalachia. There were only 14 volunteer workers which made for more individual fellowship time. St. James' sent a crew of six, Tina and Sylvia, Javon (a friend of Tina's), April (a friend of Cathy's), Cathy and me. We all piled in to the Olshan's van on a very hot Saturday morning and headed south. Many thanks to Sam and Louise for letting us use their van for the trip again. It is a wonderful vehicle which makes the trip much more comfortable. The trip itself was fun for me. I love a good road trip! It was fun getting to know Javon and April a little before we got there.

Once there and the shock of the bunk houses having burnt down was passed, we settled in for a week of fun in the hot Virginia sun, replacing porches and building and rebuilding ramps. I must say again that the crew St. James' sends down there are some of the hardest working folks I know; nothing slows them down. We were able to complete five jobs in the short week.

Cathy's leadership and drive to complete a job, and her commitment to the people of this area is inspiring. Her ability to do almost anything with almost nothing sometimes astounds me. We should nickname her "The Appalachian MacGyver." Javon, Tina's friend, and I were on the same team.

For a young man who lives in the Bronx and had never been on a mission trip, he was a joy to watch. He fell in love with an impact driver and a chop saw although he was not real fond of a "saw-saw". He was truly touched by the people of Appalachia and the conditions they live in. Javon worked very hard at every task to improve their conditions.

Tina and Sylvia -- they are just the best! They always make me so proud to know them. They work hard and play hard. During our Friday night festivities (a talent show of sorts), they both sang for everyone. As I was walking past a row of seats after they performed, I overheard someone say, "they are such wonderful girls". I just said a quiet AMEN and smiled. Cathy calls them evangelists. Many people, over the years on that mountain, have called them an answer to their prayers. I just call them amazing. To everyone that made the trip, thank you for all you do. You are truly the best!

Barbara White



Today was rather an enjoyable but tiring day. We were able to meet a majority of our host family. There are three generations in the home which I find fascinating! They were so nice. Our project we had to do was to fix a hole and some soft spots on the floor. The first part of the floor was not so bad. I was able to cut 2x4s with a circular saw which I thought was cool. I also measured 2 - 2x4s. After a while, the saw was acting crazy! We were working on the second part of the floor which took a little longer. We are not done with that yet. Tomorrow I plan on working on the roof which I am really excited about!

Tina Okoye



On Our Way We loaded the van . . .



and we are on our way!



There was a lot of honking going on, on Route 81

Reflections on the third morning waking up in southwest Virginia:
 after a late evening rain a cool air day break walk
 across dewy grass
 coming down the mountain through the wispy mist
 so many images I want to save
 then arriving at the site, our second host family
 to images I won't forget
 those who live there don't see that scene
 but see us coming to ease life a bit between a
 muddy river
 and a coal train rumbling nearby too frequently
 through the day
 while a new puppy tumbles around a skinny kitty
 we play handyman but give love jostling with
 tools
 and do see the thankfulness in the faces happy not
 to see
 the rotted broken boards
 and the faces smiling down at the new deck

April Karavani

Today went really well. It is safe for me to say that this year is the first time my group got so much done on the first day. Our project is building a new deck with a ramp attached to it. The deck was originally supported by cinder blocks, so we knew there was a lot of work that needed to be done. We tore down what was remaining of the deck and saved the wood that was on it. The wood was in pretty good shape so we are going to re-use it. Then we built the frame and moved it up so it was flush with the house, as well as level. A great start to the week and I know this project will be tackled in a timely fashion!

So exciting!!

Sylvia Okoye



Meeting the host family today gave me a whole new perspective on the world. I'm aware of this statement's weight, but I'm being completely honest. The project that my group was assigned is to rebuild a porch. As I arrived at the site, I saw that there was much to be done, but my observations did not stop there. Coming out of focus and looking at the entire house and surrounding neighborhood of Dante, it was clear to me that life for my host family is not the easiest. Then hearing stories of issues from my host family has made this even more clear. My host family's situation is surely not unique and there are similar, if not worse, ones all over the world. I'm not writing this so that people can feel sorry for others in similar situations. I just know that I really do appreciate all that I have now and this is the start of something new. I'm glad to be helping and I give all the glory to God, especially because the work isn't the easiest. I reflected on a lot today and I look forward to getting my hands dirty again – anything to help my host family.

Javon Thai

Musical Notes

Senior Choir

Well, you've seen the announcements in our Sunday bulletins for the past few weeks and I'm hoping as I'm writing that some of you have come out of the woodwork by the time you read this and joined our choir! But if you haven't, please consider joining us as we rehearse Sunday mornings at 8:30 in the Mitcham House!

If you feel you can't make a commitment to the "regular" choir, perhaps you'll consider joining us as part of an expanded choir to sing at the 2nd Annual HymnFest on Sunday evening, November 18, at 6:30pm. The event will be held at Gethsemane Lutheran Church here in Hackettstown. We would like to participate this year as a singing choir in addition to our Bell Choir but could really use a few more voices to round us out! We will be practicing our piece as part of our regular rehearsals but later in the rehearsal time – say around 9am. So, if you'd like to join us for the HymnFest, please let me know, or just show up at 9am starting Sunday, October 7!

Youth Choir

Once again we will hold rehearsals for our Youth Choir during Sunday School with a goal of performing an Advent/Christmas piece at the annual Story of the Nativity through the Arts program at the Port Morris United Methodist Church on Sunday, Dec. 2, at 5pm, and repeating that piece at our own Christmas Eve service at 4:30pm. Rehearsals will start on September 30th.

NEW! A Birthday Hymn for you! A fellow Choir Director told me about this idea and I thought it was wonderful! Give me your birthday and your favorite hymn and I will schedule it for the Sunday closest to your birthday! A note will go in the bulletin announcing your birthday and hymn choice.

The only constraint will be the appropriateness of certain hymns during certain special church season like Lent but you won't be skipped if your birthday falls during one of these times! I'll schedule your hymn for the next appropriate season!

You can email your birthday and hymn selection to me at plaura@verizon.net, email it to Linda at stjames214@comcast.net, or fill out the form that will be at the back of the church starting on Sunday, September 9th. The Birthday Hymns will start in October and, hopefully, continue on and on!

*Pam Laura
Music Director*



Preludes and Postludes during the Fall

As many of you know, I usually pick a theme for the summer and base my organ music on that theme. For this summer I had decided to play some of my very favorite preludes and postludes. Since we were in the Great Hall for the church summer season, I could not use this theme. I did take the liberty of using the theme for part of June and now have decided to continue using the theme during the fall. Each Sunday from September 9 through November 25 will have at least one organ piece that is tied to the suggested music for the Sunday. However, for many Sundays I have selected a favorite piece of mine, sometimes for the prelude and sometimes for the postlude. I am looking forward to sharing my favorites with you and hope that you will enjoy hearing them. From the comments I received in June, many people enjoyed my selections that month.

*Louise Olshan
Organist*

Bell Choir "Notes"

The St. James' Multi-Generational Bell Choir will begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 9 after the Coffee Hour following the 10:00 service. The choir looks forward to welcoming new ringers. Knowledge of music and bell ringing is not necessary. Music is color-coded to help you know when to ring. Beginners will be given easier assignments and can move into more difficult parts when they feel comfortable. Please consider joining with us as we prepare music for the fall, Advent and Christmas. You can contact me at 732-807-3211, lolshan@ccm.edu or stop me at Coffee Hour.

At this time the choir will be participating in the following:

- November 18, 7 PM, Hackettstown Hymn Sing, Gethsemane Lutheran Church
- December 2, 5 PM, Christmas Through the Arts, Port Morris United Methodist
- December 16, 5 PM, Lessons and Carols, St. Luke's, Montclair

*Louise Olshan
Bell Choir Director*

Fundraising

Tricky Tray Time!!! This is our largest fundraiser of the year. Everyone is asked to donate time, talent or treasure. This fundraiser usually raises 8-10 thousand dollars in support of ministry and mission at St. James' and its success is almost completely dependent on your help and donations. It requires the energy of most everyone in the parish. The date is Saturday, September 29th; once again the location is the Budd Lake Firehouse

The committee is hard at work soliciting donations for baskets or items to go in baskets. Anything can be a tricky tray basket; we've had baskets of candy and baskets of everyday household cleaning supplies and everything in between. What is your hobby? Bird watching? Fishing? Pottery? Flowers? Reading? Golf? Going to the beach? Cooking? All the stuff you need or like for your hobby makes for a great basket. We can also use your store coupons: Kohl's, Macy's, Penney's, even coupons to Bed Bath and Beyond or Yankee Candle. If you are not going to use it, let us have a shot.

You will find completed baskets along with items that may need a little help in becoming a basket in the Great Hall. Pick something out and complete it for us. We will also accept your cash donations for the purchase of items.

Do you know someone in business, or do you have a relationship with a store manager? You can help us by asking for a contribution of a gift certificate. Certificates from car shops, restaurants, hair care salons, and nail salons all make great baskets. We will provide you with a letter to go along with your request. Just ask Barbara Olesen, Ellen Infante, Anne Dutton or myself, and we will get you what you need.

The Tricky Tray committee is currently meeting every Tuesday night around 7pm for about an hour to wrap baskets. It is always a lot of fun and we would love it if you would join us!

Barbara White for Fundraising Committee

EAM Car Wash

The work team from St. James' was mightily supported by YOU... the people of St. James', who gave generously and helped at or patronized our Car Wash. The Car Wash raised over \$700 and additional donations came to \$485. Our trip cost was \$1003.94, which includes a motel on the trip down (three rooms), two lunches and a dinner on the trip down, breakfast and lunch on the way home (one-day drive), and gasoline. Any additional donations above expenses begin to fund next year's trip, or are sent to Episcopal Appalachian Ministries. Our transportation was provided by Sam and Louise Olshan – their comfy van is a godsend!

Thanks to all --- and if you want to join us next year, the dates are July 27 to August 3, 2013.

Painting St. James' Church

On a couple of hot days in July, young people and adult chaperones from St. Alban's Church began the painting of the sides of the church. It was close to 100 degrees both days, and they did an awesome job in getting us started. Matt Oras from the Sherwin Williams store where we purchased the paint gave us all a prep lesson and a painting lesson before we began. Peter Gartelmann was our crew chief on Wednesday.

Monday, we started on Moore St. where the church building begins, and completed to just past the chapel doorway. Prep of scraping and sanding extends another twenty feet or so. Wednesday, we needed to move to the opposite side due to the heat (the Mitcham side is in shade in the AM), and we began at 8 AM. The entire lower half of that side is completed, and the contrast of newly painted and yet to be done is evident. Be sure to check it out when next you come by the church!

This "within the Diocese" mission trip was organized by The Rev. Kathryn King, Rector of St. Alban's. She brought with her an adult youth advisor and five young people from 8th to 10th grades, and they stayed at Crossroads Camp. They were awesome workers, and we are so grateful for their work under really difficult circumstances. It cost us paint, sub sandwiches and pizza, but as they say on TV, what we got was priceless.

What remains to be accomplished is the organization of a work crew to finish the work before winter. We have enough paint and tools for this. Please watch for news about the dates we need you to help. We are tentatively scheduled to begin **Saturday, September 15th**, and Dave Handville is our crew chief! We will need two Saturdays to complete this. If you cannot paint, but can assist as a "go-fer" or preparer of food /snacks, be sure to sign up for that! Dave Handville can be reached at dhandville@comcast.net or leave your name with the Church Office 908.852.3968

PHOTO: The crew with Cathy and The Rev. Kathryn King (third from right).



Summer Backpack Program Growing

St. James' lives by the motto "We feed people," and that concept has truly been followed these past few months through the Summer Backpack Program. The program kicked off its season on June 30th, serving 89 children from 54 families. In the fourth week of food distribution, it served 209 children representing 94 families. To date, the program has fed more than 270 children over the past four sessions and still has two more giving days before its close. The program, under the leadership of Linda Deloreto and MaryAnn Simmons, as well as Carol Novrit, has grown exponentially.

Three summers ago at its inception, St. James' teamed up with the United Way of Northern New Jersey in an effort to serve the community. At that time, the program fed thirty-seven children from the Hackettstown elementary schools as a continuation of the program that occurred during the academic year. That number grew when the program included students from the Hackettstown Middle School and other children from the greater Hackettstown area who are identified as students who receive free or reduced lunch at their respective schools. Unfortunately, difficult economic times and other factors have caused many community members to seek refuge with the church and its program, but the church never expected this type of response.

Because of the increase in numbers, which seems to grow each week, the program leaders have sought assistance from outside sources as a way to incorporate more food supplies to the program's members. For instance, the Key Club of the Hackettstown High School conducted a food drive during April, May, and June and offered its donations to the backpack program as a community service outreach project. Surrounding businesses and local farmers have donated fresh produce on a weekly basis through a grant provided by Sam's Club and through the generosity of Tranquility Farms, Little Wing Gardens (a co-op owned by Barbara and Dave Oleson's son and daughter-in-law) and Genesis Farms, another co-op out of Long Valley. In addition, a neighbor of the church has offered to donate fresh tomatoes from her garden during week five of our food distribution. Furthermore, Hot Bagels Abroad located on Mountain Avenue in Hackettstown and Valley Bagel in the Panther Valley Mall in Allamuchy, have been donating bagels each week to provide fresh bread items for the children. Additionally, the Sussex County Food Pantry has also been instrumental in providing needed items to add variety to the backpacks that go home.

For instance, at the next food delivery, the pantry is providing boxes of pancake mix for each family to take home. Peanut butter and Jelly have been in high demand, and that need has been met through the church

and community members who have donated jars through the Hackettstown Life thread that was advertised during the first month of the program, as well as the peanut butter drive conducted during the Memorial Day Parade. So, too, have PB&J been provided by the Delta FIT Team out of Newark Airport who had a corporate project to collect donations from its employees. Lastly, we cannot forget the munificent monetary donations provided by The United Way, Sam's Club, the American Legion Ladies' Auxiliary, and a newlywed couple who donated all of its monetary gifts to the St. James' Summer Backpack Program.

To assist during the weeks of packing the backpacks, numerous volunteers have offered their time and energy on Saturday mornings to unload the food supply and prepare it for the Sunday packing days. Many church members, local townspeople, and their friends have joined in on the activities. Their help and expertise have added to the success of the program. Likewise, those same volunteers return on the "giving days" to assist with greeting, delivering, and bagging the fresh produce between 9 am and noon every other Saturday.

St. James' has truly flourished as a result of this mission. It is proud of its opportunity to provide such a service to the children of the town and the neighboring communities. Linda, MaryAnn, and Carol truly thank all of the people who have spent countless hours assisting in "feeding the people" and look forward to another successful year in 2013.

MaryAnn Simmons





Wendie Meets Dandie Dog

Several years ago, when I told Cathy my version of the 23rd psalm, she just hung her head, probably wondering what to do with me.

Yea, though I live in the Valley of the Panther
I fear no evil
for the Poodle is with me;
his growl and his bark,
they protect me.

Charlie was almost 15 years old when I put him down on June 28. I had lived with a dog since 1970 for all but two years. I thought I would wait six months before getting another dog – if I got one at all – unless I stumbled across the right one before then. I’m getting up in years and thought I might not be able to care for a pet for 10 or 15 years. But I missed the companionship of Charlie and started looking on the internet to see what kinds of dogs were in the rescue centers. I thought maybe a 2 or 3 year old dog weighing no more than 20 pounds would be good.

Much to my surprise, I found a 6 month old purebred miniature poodle at a nearby center. I called in the late afternoon to see if “Tommy” was still available only to learn he had been adopted – but they had two more poodle puppies. I should have asked how old they were.

The next day, Sunday, July 29, accompanied by my daughter and granddaughter, I went to the shelter and saw a 14 week old and a 15 week old puppy. Both were black. That’s when Dandie Dawg entered my life. I have a puppy to love and work with. Presently I hope he becomes a certified therapy dog who visits hospitals and nursing homes – maybe schools, too. I once saw a little boy who had not talked for weeks come out to a rabbit in the hospital. I would love to see Dandie do something like that rabbit did!

Charlie is gone now so I must move on without him. Now it is Dandie’s turn to protect me and see that I get my exercise walking him and that I am social with others when we meet dogs and their owners. And maybe together we can give comfort and help some people when Dandie becomes a therapy dog. That would be great.

Wendie L. Germain

Baptism

Rhonda and I wanted to thank you and everyone at the church for Shea's baptism yesterday. All of our friends and family commented on how beautiful the ceremony was, as well as how welcomed they felt as visitors to the church...thank you for all you've done!

Rhonda and George Lysiak, and Shea Elaine



One Good Place

It is essential to experience all the times and moods of one good place. Thomas Merton

All the times and moods of one good place are here
In this place

It might be a good thing to open our eyes and see.

From where I sit, I look out over a meadow of tall grasses
In horizontal bands of sunlight and shade
Painted by the midmorning sun in a soft blue sky
Splashing multiple hues of green over a background of trees
Peace welcomes me into a quiet place
Into still waters deep within
Away from clutter of paper and boxes
To a place of gratitude.

Gratitude

For all of your prayers
For Dave’s loving care
For Cathy
For Linda and everyone who produced the Journal
For God’s love for all of us
*Sustaining us with loving care
And bountiful Spirit.*

With all my thanks,

Phyllis

More Pictures!



SEPTEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 Office Closed 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	28 Summer Office Hours 9:00-12:00 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	29 Summer Office Hours 9:00-12:00 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	30 Summer Office Hours 9:00-12:00 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM Theology & A Cold Drink	31 Summer Office Hours 9:00-12:00 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	1 9:00 AM Summer Back Pack Program Shopping
2 9:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 10:30 AM Welcome/Greeters Committee Meeting	3 Office Closed 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	4 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	5 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	6 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM Theology & A Cold Drink	7 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	8 9:00 AM PAINTING OF THE CHURCH 10:00 AM SUMMER BACKPACK PROGRAM PICKUP
9 RETURN TO TWO SERVICES 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	10 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	11 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	12 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	13 8:00 AM CLERGY BREAKFAST 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM Chapel Service	14 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	15 9:00 AM PAINTING OF THE CHURCH
16 Homecoming Sunday Sunday School Registration 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Family Breakfast 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	17 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	18 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	19 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM Special Events Committee Meeting	20 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM Chapel Service 7:30 PM VESTRY MEETING	21 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	22
23 Sunday School Begins 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Youth Group	24 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	25 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	26 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	27 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM Chapel Service	28 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	29  5:30 PM TRICKY TRAY
30 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	1 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	2 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	3 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	4 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM Chapel Service	5 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	6