



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS, RECTOR

OCTOBER 2013



Do you remember one of the first TV game shows called "Truth or Consequences"? A selected contestant was first interviewed by the show host, then asked to answer a nonsense riddle. If the contestant failed to answer the riddle (which happened more often than not) before the buzzer sounded, he or she had to pay the consequences. This usually meant performing some silly stunt for which the contestant was abundantly rewarded. Perhaps what made this game so popular was that despite its name, there really were no bad "consequences." True, you might lose the game. But you couldn't end up in any worse shape than when you started.

In real life, there are consequences. We are not free to choose our own consequences; consequences come with choices. Certain choices come with specific consequences attached. Some consequences are obvious. If you spend all day in the sun at the beach without sunscreen on, the consequences are visible to all - sunburn. Choosing to expose yourself to the sun every day may result in something less noticeable but far more dangerous - skin cancer. Others are not so obvious. Taking for granted an important relationship results in estrangement. Convinced I am right, I ignore the good counsel of friends.

There are some judges in the justice system who have chosen to try to make a *sentence* more like a *consequence*. In Maine, 19-year-old Patrick Rosa expected to walk into the York County Jail and begin a four-month sentence for his role in a hit-and-run snowmobile crash that nearly killed another man. Instead, his jail time was only part of his sentence. After he gets out, he will witness an autopsy conducted on a victim of a drunken driving crash.

That was not the first time a state judge has used so-called "creative sentencing" to drive home a criminal act's consequences. In May 2004, Judge Nation made national headlines with the way he sentenced a 24-year-old young man convicted of cocaine possession. Originally, the sentence called for Brenton Jay Raffensperger to serve seven years in prison; however the judge decided to go another

route. When the young man's lawyers wanted to arrange a plea agreement, Judge Nation decided to agree to it. He would allow Mr. Raffensperger to serve only six months in prison. He added a special order to the end of the sentence, however. For the remaining six and a half years, the man had to sleep with a coffin in his home. The coffin was to serve as a reminder as to where drugs could very well lead the man some day.

Consequence. Consequence says that what you put out comes back to you: an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. Even in the physical world, every action is met by an equal or an opposite one. But for us, we who claim the risen Christ as our Lord, there is more to life than consequence.

There is grace.

Consequence says that what you put out comes back to you. Grace defies reason and logic. Grace interrupts the consequences of our actions. That is really good news, because we do a lot of stupid stuff.

Fortunately, we are not simply slaves to the stupid things or the wrong things or the evil things we do. We are not trapped by the consequences of our actions. We are saved by grace: the gift we receive at baptism, and continue to receive as we live into our baptismal promises. It enables us to give when we feel like we don't have enough for ourselves; it enables us to reach out to another hurting human being when we feel like we don't know what to say; it enables us to love when people are acting most unlovable; it enables us to live through the consequences of our actions and enables us to change those actions.

So be blessed with grace. When the consequences of our actions come home to roost, let us cling to the grace of God.

We will be blessed beyond measure.

Grace-fully yours,

Cathy+

From the September Meeting

Vestry Hi-Lites

- + Solar panel proposal – remains in the hands of the Diocese of Newark Standing Committee. They wish to refine it in order to have it be the pattern for future solar panel contracts throughout the Diocese.
+ Sanctuary air conditioning gift – Proposal for A/C for the church and electrical work totals \$12,825 - Vestry requested estimate of cost to operate before making final decision. The anonymous gift is for A/C only and will be returned if the project is not approved.
+ Sharing of gifts – Ann Edens has generously offered to donate her services as attorney at law for the purpose of drawing wills and health care directives for members of St. James’ with the cost being donated to St. James’

Thanks to those who attended the Columbarium Forum on September 29th. If you are interested in learning more about the St. James’ Columbarium, please see a member of the committee: Meg Critchley, Ellen Infante, Sam Wood, Cathy Deats or Barbara Olesen

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

November 9th, 2013

2013 Murder Mystery

“The Reunion”

“The St. James’

Murder Mystery Game”

It plays very similar to the classic “CLUE” game, but uses characters from the Rev. Cathy Deats Murder Mysteries mixed with those from Modugno’s Novels. The Rev. Cathy Deats decided to invite these characters back for a reunion and to take part in the unveiling of the game. As an added feature Eddie Modugno & friends (?) are putting on a live performance of one of the key scenes from his most recent novel.

Please contact Linda Ayres, Parish Administrator, to reserve your tickets!

Don’t make alibis!!!

The PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE will meet Wednesday, October 9, at 7:00 pm in the Mitcham House. You are welcome to contribute your ideas to this committee which organizes and coordinates parish activities, including our worship life. Our agenda is to plan the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. We will also spend time creating opportunities for fellowship and making plans for supporting the ministries of worship.

ST. JAMES’ YOUTH GROUP
EXPLORE THE BIBLE,
PRACTICE YOUR BAPTISMAL VOWS,
SHARE YOUR STORY
OPEN TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE,
GRADES 6 TO 12
2nd and 4th Sundays AT 11:30 AM in the Great Hall
October 13, October 27
REFRESHMENTS AT ALL MEETINGS!
We feed people!

Education for Ministry

The Education for Ministry Seminar Group began their new year of study in a new time slot – 4 PM on Sundays. We gather around the table of study in the Mitcham House. Our first few meetings are spent sharing our lives via the exercise of spiritual autobiography. We traced our individual journeys through life with God as guide. Now, we are ready to plunge into the study of the Hebrew Scriptures (Year One), Christian Testament (Year Two), and Church History (Year 3). There are no fourth year students this year, but Cathy welcomed her new Co-Mentor, Linda Ayres, who just graduated from EFM in June and attended training in August. Our seminar students are Pam Laura, Linda DeLoreto, Carol Novrit, Margi Jenkins, Claudia Scala and Peg Faust (also a graduate, but choosing to enter study again due to new curriculum and her devotion to learning!).



Dave Handville of Aspen Contracting expertly handled the repairs to the Parish Hall roof after a 35' tree fell on it this summer. We are so blessed to have Dave in our community, and to benefit from his gift of impeccable workmanship!

Why I Go To St. James'

Living in Lake Hopatcong, I often get asked the question, "Why do you travel thirty minutes to go to church?" That question would easily be answered the minute anyone stepped foot in St. James'.

A few weeks ago, a fellow parishioner became ill during the church service. As an EMT, I felt the call to help, as did others during the service. My husband, Jim went to the car to get my kit. I felt conflicted, as both an interpreter and an EMT. Should I stay and help or return back to the Altar to interpret? As I looked up, I was truly in awe. People moved around, like a well oiled machine. There was a new interpreter on the Altar and someone had quietly moved to make sure my daughter felt reassured. Others still stepped up to make sure the ill parishioner was well taken care of. It was a sight to behold!

For those of you who don't know, my brother Bill Carroll is deployed to Afghanistan for a year. My sister in law had asked Jim and I to take care of their three year old and six month old. Since I was interpreting that morning for both the 8:00 and 10:00 services, Jim brought all three children to the 10:00 service by himself. As he entered the church so many of the wonderful people at St. James' offered their assistance. "Just signal if you need us," he was told by the ushers. One parishioner sat next my daughter and niece when they needed help. Another parishioner even took my nephew for a walk when he became fussy. Watching from the Altar, it nearly brought a tear to my eye.

Why do I travel thirty minutes to go to church? The answer is easy. Parishioners at St. James' are unlike any others. They truly care about one another like family. St. James' is remarkable and I love it here!

Kathy Jacoby

Fundraising Report

The St. James' FRC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6PM in the Mitcham House. Dates for the remainder of the year are: October 9, November 13 and December 11.

Scrip Pro-The holidays are fast approaching. Think how much gift card recipients would enjoy a dinner out or selecting their own clothing or merchandise with a gift card! The FRC Committee will be offering free Holiday Card Sleeves for gift-giving! The last 3 dates for ordering for this year are Oct 13, Nov 10 and Dec 8.

Spaghetti Dinner-October 12th, 4PM-7PM, \$10. Come out for a St. James' home-cooked meal and bring some friends!

Lia Sophia-watch for upcoming details on a demonstration of this beautiful jewelry by our own Linda DeLoreto who is doing a fundraiser to benefit St. James'!

Thanks for your support in our fundraising efforts!

8th Annual Tricky Tray

Thanks to the generosity of the Parish and Friends of St. James', local merchants and a few celebrities, we were able to raise over \$12,000! It was the first time we sold out our venue and had to turn people away. It was truly a spectacular event and the Fundraising Committee is grateful to have the support of so many!

Many thanks to our hard working Fund Raising Committee who worked so hard to make this happen!



Stewardship Stew

We all know that Stewardship is the responsibility to manage and take care of the things we have been given by God. We should be able to enjoy them now, but be able to pass them to future generations with pride. This is done in many ways and we all have our special ways of contributing.

I recently read an article on an interesting new way to look at the word “Stewardship” and how that can also relate to the way we think about Stewardship. The article took the first part of the word and likened it to an actual stew. Most of us are familiar with the stews from our kitchen and the stews our mothers and grandmothers made on occasion. If you have some remembrance of those wonderful smelling and delicious dishes, you also know that they weren’t made from a strict recipe and didn’t necessarily always taste the same as the previous one. It was a little bit of this and a little bit of that that made the stew so unique.

You can think about a lot of what we do in our Church as a stew of sorts; the many ministries that are functioning and change depending on the needs of the Community. The pot-luck dinners that bring together all sorts of wonderful and diverse dishes; the types of people in our congregation and how they differ from one another and how that can change over the years with new parishioners being added; we could go on and on with comparisons. The point is that no matter what our contribution is to the Church, it is vitally important that we each contribute “a little bit of this or a little bit of that” to make it work and to come together.

We at St. James’ practice Stewardship all year long through the many things we do and the many lives we touch. Just a few examples include taking Communion to those who are unable to attend Church services, maintaining our Church buildings, doing research to lower our operating costs, participating in the various programs and ministries.

However, this is a special time of year when we ask you, our St. James’ family, to make a formal commitment of your time, talents, and treasures, so

that our leaders can plan for the coming year. Sunday, October 20th is Stewardship Sunday and Vestry member Ann Edens will be our lay preacher telling us about her stewardship journey. You will also be receiving printed information about how the leaders of St. James’ practice stewardship of the gifts God gives this community, especially the gifts you share with us.

Please consider how you will share your time, talents and treasures for the coming year.

Janice Cipriani

WHAT’S NEW AROUND THE CAMPUS?

You may have noticed the scaffolding surrounding the church building. Cro-International has begun work to replace the Yankee gutter system, an intricate design in which the gutters do not hang off of the building, but are built as an integral part of the roof system. As you might expect, this is an expensive proposition but a long-lasting one. The cost of the job is \$37,500, half of which is funded by the Diocese of Newark’s Ward J. Herbert Fund. Our Capital Improvement budget supports the rest, all because of your generous contributions to the Capital Improvement Fund.

The church steps, rebuilt from the ground up in 2006, are showing signs of normal wear which must be addressed before winter. Our mason, Nick Bencivengo, builder of the steps, has submitted a proposal for repair (\$2,280) to the Vestry, which will be acted on this month.

Our next Maintenance Morning is scheduled for Saturday, October 26th from 9 AM to 12 PM. You can join in the repair, cleaning, and general upkeep duties which keep St. James’ beautiful and offer another way to give as we use every resource offered to be good stewards of the property gifts we have been given. This is a really fun morning, coffee and bagels, good fellowship, and you are free to come for an hour or all three! Peter Gartelmann is our leader and resident expert on all things which need maintenance!

Journal Deadline

NOVEMBER EDITION:

October 20th

Broken at the Ambo

by Jewels Quelly

I have been public speaking for a very long time. Despite the fact that I am a Highly Sensitive Person (Did you know we actually have our own category now?!) and unafraid of my own emotions, I can count on one hand the number of times that a passage I have been delivering aloud has brought me to a public display of tears before I was finished.

Somehow, this past year turned into a banner year in my life. It didn't start as anything out of the ordinary. I didn't reach a milestone birthday. I didn't win an Emmy award. Yet, I made some choices to live the way I wanted to live, not how others think I should live, that sent me on a spinning adventure. I released many ideas and voices and behaviors I was familiar and comfortable with in an experiment to see which ones were worthy of being embraced again.

A major part of this growth period was embracing faith. Not the faith that involves regularly attending a house of worship or the faithfulness of showing up for appointments or the faithfulness that involves being true to one's spouse. This was the faithful of knowing that no matter what, I was not alone and God would carry me. Leaning in, as they say, to living in the knowledge that God's time is not mine (ugh) and I was not in charge of my life (double ugh).

And here I was, at the end of September and I still didn't have a lot of questions answered the way I thought they should be answered, but I'm getting a little better at going with the flow. But frankly, I'm worn out. I'd like some answers. And I'm used to getting those answers. I'm proactive. I work hard. I don't avoid asking hard questions. I am really good at seeing the non-verbal signs and I often hear what I perceive to be reassurances from the Holy Spirit that I'm on the right, or wrong path. And I'm getting nothing. Bupkis. "This is unfair," I silently rail. "I've waited long enough."

That's when I found myself at the ambo, after a long break. Delivering a lesson that seemed to be placed in that insert just for me.

The first part of the reading was a philosophy I've ascribed to forever. Make important things your priorities. Check. I've got that covered. The next part: Live a good life; pursue love, godliness, etc. Check. The next part: keep on fighting. Crud. Jesus (through Paul's words to Timothy) is calling me out publicly and has chosen me to deliver the message personally. Well played, Jesus.

"Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

I can picture Jesus pumping his fist on a wooden table demanding that I fight the good fight. I've been called to it. This summer I promised I would keep the faith, no matter what, but now I'm tired of fighting and he's still asking me to fight.

At this point in the reading, I knew I was done-for. I believe it was a good thing that I didn't have time to read the lesson before the service as I normally would have. In order for me to properly receive and deliver the message, it had to take us all by storm. Here I was breaking at the ambo. I couldn't stop it. I was in the presence of many who have witnessed all the ups and downs of my/our life. Never have I felt rejected by this tribe, only welcomed. St. James' is The Body of Christ if there ever was one. If I finally had to break and fall into the arms of The Body of Christ, deep in my heart I knew I'd be caught and held safe.

I took a deep breath, leapt, and was caught in the arms of my family. I felt safe and restored and ready to head back into the fight.

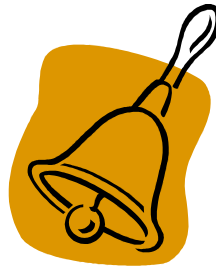


A Celtic Journey to Scotland

Imagine a foreign travel nightmare: landing in an unfamiliar place with strange vehicle configurations, driving on the wrong side of the road, pictograph road signs and fumbling with maps or a GPS to find your next destination. Now close your eyes, relax and imagine the opposite: riding in a comfortable bus for 16, with a professional driver who knows the way to your hotel, or next stop where you are expected. Hmmm. Well that was the way our recent trip to Scotland progressed with a trip arranged by Celtic Journeys, sponsored by the Community of Saint John Baptist, and guided by Sister Margo.

Celtic Journeys will offer guided tours to Ireland, Scotland and Wales this year. Our 9 day visit to Scotland went seamlessly and without hassles. We had en-suite hotel accommodations, great food and an interesting itinerary. This allowed us to concentrate on enjoying the people we met and the ample written guides that Sister Margo provided, as well as taking in the history, scenic beauty of the Highlands, the Isle of Iona, and Edinburgh. A highlight for us was attending Holy Communion at Edinburgh's St. Mary's Cathedral and where we experienced a sung service with the Scottish lectionary and cathedral choir (but, no smells and bells).

There is too much to tell about this trip for a short article in our Journal. Please talk to either Phyllis or Paul Bartkus about their experiences, but be prepared to see some pictures. For further information about Celtic Journeys and up-coming trips, look at our bulletin board in the Parish Hall, or go on-line to: <http://www.celticjourneys.org>.



Bell Choir "Notes"

The St. James' Multi-Generational BellChoir began rehearsals on Sunday, September 15. The choir happily welcomed Melissa Vitalos as a ringer. Melissa did help out in the spring, but we now welcome her as a "regular".

I also want to mention all of our ringers. They are truly a great group to work with and I hope they enjoy rehearsals and participating in our ringing events as much as I do. Returning members of the St. James' Multi-Generational Bell Choir are David Bernauer, Scott Carson, Drew Lacouture, Pam Laura, Brian Nolan, Meredith Nolan, Chika Okoye, Sam Olshan, Marge Schafetz, Amelia Vitalos and Helen Wise. We continue to pray for restored good health for Helen and look forward to her return to the group. Helen hopes to be back ringing this fall.

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

- Oct 27 10 AM Worship Service, St. James'
- Nov 24 7 PM Hackettstown Hymn Sing,
Gethsemane Lutheran Church
- Dec 15 10 AM Worship Service, St. James'
- Dec 15 5 PM Lessons and Carols, St. Luke's,
Montclair

The choir is preparing some very beautiful music for the next few months. We will be playing an arrangement of *Earth and All Stars* on October 27 and November 24. The piece uses a variety of bell techniques and we challenge the members of the congregation to see if they can determine the many different ways the bells are played. If you join us at the Hackettstown Hymn Sing, you will actually be able to see the ringers and watch as the different techniques are used.



Advent Meditation will be the selection for December 15, both at St. James' and at St. Luke's. It is a medley of three popular Advent tunes – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel, Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* and *Watchman, Tell us of the Night*.

I hope the Bell Choir will have some fun preparing this music and that wherever we are playing that the music enhances the listeners' worship experiences. We are always looking to include more members in our choir and encourage you to stop in at a rehearsal to see what we do and how we do it.

Louise Olshan
Organist and Bell Choir Director



Music "Notes"

Senior Choir

By mid-October, we will be looking towards Advent and Christmas, including singing

at the 3rd annual Hackettstown Hymnfest on November 24! We continue to look for more members. Our rehearsals are Sunday mornings at 8:30am and we meet in the Mitcham House living room. Attendance every Sunday is not required. The ability to read music is also not required – if everyone read music we'd hardly need to rehearse! Instead we try to have at least 4 rehearsals of a piece before we sing it so there's time to learn the music. We have been singing downstairs in the Church to accommodate those who cannot do the stairs to the choir loft and can continue to do that if needed to accommodate singers. So, please consider joining us! We're a great group!

Thank You

A big "thank you" to Dave Olesen for providing guitar accompaniment for our Sept. 15 anthem! It added another dimension to the piece!

Youth Choir

Our Youth Choir is part of our Sunday School program. The children rehearse during Sunday School on about 8 Sundays prior to a date when they will be singing. We started preparing our Christmas piece, a reprise of "Go Tell It On the Mountain" at the end of September. We hope to perform the piece at the annual Story of the Nativity thru the Arts program at the Port Morris United Methodist Church in early December and again on Christmas Eve.

Other Music

Don't forget your Birthday Hymns! You can fill out a Birthday Hymn form and either give it to me or put it in the collection plate and it will get to me! I will try to get it into the music on a Sunday as close to your birthday as possible, as long as your hymn is liturgically correct for that date. If it's not, (e.g. a Christmas hymn but your birthday is in Lent), then I will include your hymn during its liturgical season.

Last, I'm looking for feedback on the music we used this summer. Look for a short questionnaire included in your bulletins over the next few weeks.

Lift your hearts up to the Lord.....with music!

Pam Laura
Music Director

You are Invited

Backpack Program
Celebration of Volunteers
St. James' Episcopal Church
honors the volunteers who feed
hungry children
through the Backpack Program

Sunday, October 13th
Worship Service 10 AM
Festive Reception in Great Hall
11:30 AM
RSVP to
stjames214@comcast.net

Phyllis Heistand

April 4, 1937

August 10, 2013



Phyllis Heistand's spirit was commended to God in the Sanctuary of St. James' on Saturday, September 28th. Her remains were interred in the memorial garden at Holy Cross Monastery on Tuesday, October 1st.

Memorial donations in Phyllis' name may be made as follows:

St. James' Episcopal Church Rectors Discretionary Fund
Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, NY

*Please pray for those who miss her, especially husband
David Heistand*

REFLECTIONS OF PHYLLIS

Phyllis and I were partners in crime in writing the St. James's Murder Mysteries. She was like a teacher to me, giving me bi-weekly writing assignments (later to become weekly). When I didn't have one of my assignments done, I would bring in a prop. She loved props. Our goal was to create an environment to have fun and we accomplished that. She loved her Journal, so we incorporated a special Murder Mystery Edition each year to hide a clue or two. It was my privilege to work with such a talented and inspirational person.

Pete Huryk

When I think of Phyllis, I reflect on what a graceful woman she was. I looked up the definition of grace: "Grace is a divine energy or spiritual intelligence

that comes from a divine source." I call this God, Jesus, Spirit, the universe, a higher power –whatever it is Phyllis lived her life with grace. She was powerful yet gentle, graceful yet strong and passionate about faith without burning out. She had this beautiful energy and a divine intelligence working in her life. Phyllis's last lesson in her life would be teaching us all to live our life "dancing" with grace.

Eileen Malejko

Phyllis was a real pray-er. She believed in and experienced the real power of prayer. Her desire to draw others into prayer was to create the Prayer Ministry, in which members are notified by email to pray confidentially for specific needs, questions and thanksgivings. Ask anyone at St. James' if they have heard an answer to prayer as a result of these faithful pray-ers, and they can tell you a dozen stories. Phyllis, you gave us many gifts -- I thank you for this one.

Cathy Deats

Phyllis and I shared a love of words, both written and read. We could appreciate each other's sense of philosophy, both spiritual and social, whether we agreed or not. She supported my journey as a pilgrim and as a parent with books she was familiar with and her recommendations were always spot-on. Phyllis and Dave and my children forged their own bond.

Jewels Quelly

When I think of Phyllis, this is what I remember: Her smile, her patience, her dedication to prayer, her lovely voice, her ability to listen to others, her passion for the Journal and Murder Mystery, her bird-watching, her strength, her dedication to St. James' and Holy Cross Monastery, her spirit and her love for Dave and Macy. I miss her so much, but I know that she is resting peacefully in the arms of God.

Barbara Olesen

**"Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
Alleluia!"**

(Sung by Phyllis Heistand during Communion)

Life after Deaf

I was born hearing. I became hard of hearing at about 14. No one noticed so I had no special support. I got my first hearing aid at 18 so I could cope with a hearing class on junior college level. I got married at 25 and was told I would remain hard of hearing. I became profoundly deaf at 30.

Profoundly deaf is when you have no hearing in a normal voice range. About ten years later we moved from NYC to NC. I met the deaf community for the first time. Every one said I needed to learn to sign for communication. I went to classes at a church and then NC - Greensboro. I met an Episcopal missionary for the deaf. He suggested not only could I learn to become involved in the deaf community, I could help hearing people. So I did that. I worked as a teacher's aide for deaf children. We moved to NJ. There was no relay center for phones. I was used to that service. St. Dunstan's church donated space and volunteers and the Deaf Contact Center was created. It stopped when federal law specified each state must provide a relay. I ran the Bible Club for Deaf Children. Cathy Deats and Betsy Smylie were the originators.

When I was becoming a deacon I came to St. James'. I met a delightful man named Ed Billington. He was deaf and blind. Because I had already befriended a deaf and blind man I felt at ease with Ed. Deafness is unique to each person. My friend was blind and then wanted to learn to sign because he was losing his sight and he wanted to know people in the deaf community. Ed became deaf as a very young child. His immediate family would not sign with him. Ed managed to develop a wide friendship in the deaf community and learned to sign. At that time he could see so learning to sign was easy. By the time we met his sight was very limited. I could sign visually with him but sometimes used tactile signs. Tactile signs are signing in the blind persons hands. Here at St. James' Ed had the support of Barbara and David Olesen. They drove Ed to church and sat with him to help him follow the service. Ed had moved to Hackettstown to be closer to his hearing son and family. He lived in an apartment surrounded with hearing people. Barbara and David and Cathy Deats provided him a life line. Few people reading this know sign language. I do want to stress that everyone can learn to be a better communicator with a bit of empathy and imagination. First of all the deaf person must be able to see you. No bright lights in eye and no chewing gum in your mouth. Mime is perfectly acceptable. It is why young children learn to sign with ease.

Children love to mime and act out. Adults get

uptight too easily. When all else fails pen and paper work. Ask the deaf person how you might best communicate. Just wanting to open that door is a great beginning. We are blessed at St. James' to have a rector and deacon who sign. We are blessed with hard working professional interpreters. We have a warm and friendly church family, including some members who sign. There is a saying "attitude can be the biggest disability".

Any questions? I'd love to "hear" them!

The Rev. Sheila Shuford, Deacon

THE ST. JAMES' LIBRARY



Featuring the Works of Brennan Manning

If you have a chance to browse the St. James' Library in the Great Hall you will notice that the featured author is Brennan Manning.

Manning was a former Roman Catholic Priest who passed away this past April. He was a prolific author with more than 20 published books. His most famous work is on display in the Library, "The Ragamuffin Gospel" which outlines Manning's personal struggles with alcoholism and how he comes to the realization that the love of God through Jesus Christ is true and constant despite our sinful nature. Manning's blunt style and raw depiction of his own struggle to accept the love of God have made him one of the most widely read of recent Christian authors.

Look for "Ragamuffin" and other works by Brennan Manning in our Library

Happy reading!
Jim Simmons

The St. James' Library, a gift of the Simmons family, has been rejuvenated with wonderful new titles for you to borrow. There are titles on everything from parenting to spirituality, from Bible study to the latest book by Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori. Featured author is Brennan Manning, Ragamuffin Gospel. You will also find CDs of music and videos of sign language.

Come and borrow!

Counting at St. James'

St. James' provides opportunities for members to get involved with the ministries of the church. This is a way of contributing one's time and talent and to get to know other members of the congregation and to assist where we can make a difference. These ministries are varied and we all have areas where we feel more comfortable in than others. Because of this, we may not "have a clue" what goes on with other ministries.

I'd like to talk a little about the Counters. Counters are a group of dedicated individuals who are scheduled every six weeks or so to count and record the donations made to St. James' at the two services on Sunday mornings. Their goal is to have this count be as accurate as possible and to be sure that parishioners are given the proper credit for their generous donations, and that those donations are posted to the account that is designated by the donor.

It sounds pretty simple, and it can be, in a perfect world. Of course, we know that won't happen. However, **you** can actually make it easier for the counters by following a few guidelines.

Counters prepare deposit tickets for each account, so if you can, it would be helpful to write separate checks for each account. For example, one check for the **Operating Fund**, one check for the **Capital Improvement Fund** and one check for the **Building Fund**. Without going into the actual problems that occur when just one check is written for several accounts (unless you'd like to be trained as a counter), or what needs to be done to make everything balance, the next time you are writing checks please think about how this little effort on your part, can make a counter very happy.

Thank you for your continued support and generous contributions to St. James'.

Janice Cipriani, Stewardship Chair



Ann Edens, member of the St. James' Vestry has made a very creative stewardship gift this year from her talents. As a new Vestry member, she asked, "What can I offer as we consider creative ways to fund the St. James' mortgage?":

Dear Members of St. James:

As many of you know, I am an attorney. My practice is located in Chester, NJ. I have decided that I would like to contribute to St. James' by offering my services in the preparation of Wills, Powers of Attorney and Health Care Directives. I will prepare any or all of these documents at your request, without charge. In return, I would ask that you contribute what would ordinarily be my fee to St. James', Hackettstown, as you are able. You should check with an accountant, but it is my understanding that you will be given the tax credit as a charitable contribution at the end of the tax year.

An explanation of each document is as follows.

Wills: Your Will contains what you would like to happen with your assets after your death. You will need to choose who you would like to be your beneficiaries (i.e., family, church, other charities, friends). You will also need to choose an Executor to probate your Will and distribute your assets according to your wishes. The Executor is commonly a family member, but may also be a friend, a bank, an attorney, a financial planner or an accountant. If you choose an institution to be the Executor of your estate, it is likely there will be fees for their services.

Power of Attorney: Your Power of Attorney gives someone else the power to carry on your affairs if you temporarily or permanently cannot do so for yourself. This means, among a host of other things, paying your bills, collecting money owed to you, and in general taking care of everything financial. You will need to choose who you would like to do this for you. Again, the Power of Attorney is commonly a family member, but may also be a friend, a bank, an attorney, a financial planner or an accountant.

Health Care Directive: This document is also known as a Living Will. In this document you will set forth your desires if you become ill to the extent that there is question whether you will recover. You will also choose someone to make the decision, if needed, regarding withholding certain medical care, based on your wishes as set forth in conjunction with medical information. This individual is almost always a family member or close friend.

If you are interested in these services, please contact me at aann@iandoliedens.com , 908-813-9672, or see me in church. I will provide you with forms to fill out in preparation for the drafting of your documents. I am also trying to make this as easy as possible for everyone by doing away with the need for an "office" conference. However, please don't hesitate to let me know if you would prefer to go over these forms in person.

Please know that confidentiality is my first and foremost concern. The names of anyone who participates in this will only be known to me and whoever you wish to share with. The same goes for the contents of these documents.

Ann Edens, Esq.



Think people instead of baskets!



The end of the Summer Backpack Program!

Committed to Worship and Building community



Admitting participants to the Tricky Tray...

... and turning them away!




In Christ's Name



Truly a "family" breakfast!

YANKEE GUTTER WORK HAS BEGUN!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM ADULT FORUM: FINAL PLANS 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	30 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	1 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	2 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	3 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM CHAPEL SERVICE	4 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	5  8:30 AM BREAKFAST CLUB BIBLE STUDY 11:00 AM HACKETTS-TOWN COMMUNITY DAY
6 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	7 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	8 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM FINANCE COMMITTEE	9 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:00 PM Fundraising Committee Meeting 7:00 PM PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE	10 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM CHAPEL SERVICE	11 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	12 MAINTENANCE MORNING
13 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	14 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	15 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	16 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	17 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM CHAPEL SERVICE 7:30 PM VESTRY MEETING	18 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	19 8:30 AM BREAKFAST CLUB BIBLE STUDY
20 JOURNAL DEADLINE! 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	21 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	22 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	23 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:30 PM DIOCESE OF NEWARK OPEN COMMUNION TASK FORCE 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	24 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM CHAPEL SERVICE	25 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	26 Maintenance Morning 9 AM - 12 PM Meet in GH
27 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY	28 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	29 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	30 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	31 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM CHAPEL SERVICE	1 All Saints Day 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	2 8:30 AM BREAKFAST CLUB BIBLE STUDY

St. James' Staff & Vestry

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Cathy L. Deats
Deacon: The Rev. Sheila Shuford
Rector Emeritus: The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Parish Administrator: Linda Ayres
Music Director: Pam Laura
Organist/Bell Choir Director: Louise Olshan
Sexton: Pauline Volkert

Vestry

Senior Warden: "Position Vacant"
Junior Warden: David Lacouture

David Bernauer	Carol Novrit	Ann Edens
Peter Gartelmann	David Jenkins	Roy Smith
Barbara Olesen	Chika Okoye	Ellen Infante

Vestry Clerk: Jayne Mutascio
Treasurer:
Asst. Treasurer: Carol Novrit
Bookkeeper: Ellen Infante

Barbara Olesen, Editor

Linda Ayres, Production

All Journal submissions
should be sent to:

stjames214@comcast.net
& olesen@comcast.net

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
214 WASHINGTON STREET
HACKETTSTOWN NJ 07840