



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

JULY/AUGUST 2014

REV. ELIZABETH MYERS, SUPPLY PRIEST

Surrvey Sezzz—

On TV the game show host for “Family Feud” draws-out, “Surrvey Sezzz” and for us the results of our recent parish survey “sezzz’ that the five most important activities that we want continued during our transition period are: Worship, Outreach, Fellowship, Education and Pastoral Care. We feel that it is most important that we maintain a schedule of weekly celebrations of the Eucharist. Second we want to maintain our outreach to the community through the Backpack program, North Porch, Seamen’s Institute and the Deaf Ministry, as examples. Yes, we do like to eat and share time together and Family Breakfast and Coffee Hour are important to us. We want to preserve our Sunday School, Education for Ministry and expand our Youth Ministry. Finally, it is important that we provide pastoral care to our members.

We also answered questions about our greatest strengths and greatest challenges. We overwhelmingly see our strength as being a friendly and welcoming congregation who care for each other. Our ability to work together enables us to accomplish our outreach. Hands down, our greatest challenges are seen in the areas of finance and congregation growth. Many people ranked our mortgage as their primary concern.

The above results were based on a sample of 29 surveys plus two letters that were written in response to the survey. If these results are not consistent with your perceptions or feelings let one of your vestry members know your views.

Paul Bartkus



Summer Worship Service

There will be one service at 9 AM beginning July 6th. We return to

Another Visit with our Vestry

I recently attended another Vestry meeting. These meetings are interesting now as the Vestry discusses the process to find our Priest-in-Charge, what that person’s efforts will be directed to, and how much of his or her time we can afford. The implications of the “time” part of the Priest-In-Charge contract are extremely important and this alone should get some of you out of your homes and over to the Parish Hall for these meetings! For example, there is the possibility that we may only have this person at two of four Sundays every month. It’s not as if we wouldn’t have a service, although having a service at another church could be an option, too. There are various ways to have our own services for the other two Sundays such as having a Deacon’s Mass as we did on June 29 when Betsy was away, or having Morning Prayer which can be led by any of our Lay Eucharistic Ministers. These are the types of discussions going on now at Vestry meetings and I know the Vestry would value your inputs!

Pam Laura

Vestry Hi-Lites

- † The Vestry voted to submit an application to the Diocese to hire a “Priest in Charge.”
- † “Enriching Our Worship” material to be used for Summer services.
- † Ocean Grove Choir will use Sanctuary for choir practice on several Mondays in the Summer.
- † First meeting of the Mortgage Committee was held on June 7th.



SUMMER BACKPACK

As the end of the school year approached, my cell phone started to ring. “Are you doing the food program this year?” Last year we fed at least 240 children each GIVE with 300 children in total dependent on our program.

Every year we reach out to the community and businesses for volunteers and support. The Hackettstown area responded again with generosity. So far we have gotten donations of cloth bags from Fulton Bank, PNC Bank, Shoprite and CVS. Our bagels are donated again from our faithful supporters at Hot Bagel’s Abroad and Valley Bagel. We will again be collecting fresh produce donations from Tranquility Farms and Weis Markets and also from new supporters’ at Donaldson’s Farm, Harper’s and Godlewskys. We have gotten wonderful donations from food drives at schools: Allamuchy Elementary School, Walkill High School and Hackettstown High School. Weis Market continues as our partner for supplies providing us with donations, discounts and service.

St. James’ parishioners are lucky to have created the Summer Backpack program. The program brings joy to so many children but also each year builds a great team of hard working, enthusiastic volunteers. This year we had a small but very hard-working group on the “management” team. This group negotiated great donations from our community. Our program explodes with volunteers for the fun and spirit filled SHOP, PACK and GIVE. “Management” volunteers are still needed to organize/supervise many SHOP and PACK days throughout the summer.

Our program has also worked side-by-side with North Porch Women & Infants’ Centers. North Porch is an organization founded by the Episcopal Church Woman of the Diocese of Newark. North Porch provides emergency supplies for the care of babies: diapers, wipes and formula. Our St. James’ Church has been a North Porch outpost providing care to Hackettstown moms for the past several years.

Linda DeLoreto



HONORING OUR GRADUATES

Captain Thomas Malejko-US Army

Promoted to Captain May 1st.

Isaac Quelly-Warren Hills

National Honor Society. Attending Drexel University School of Engineering in Philadelphia.

Nicholas DeLoreto-Frelinghuysen Elementary

Nicholas will be attending North Warren Middle School.

Hayden Maria Smith-Mansfield Twp Elementary

Hayden will be attending Warren Hills Middle School.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES! YOUR ST. JAMES’ FAMILY IS PROUD OF YOU!

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Special Events will be putting together an August event on 8/16, beginning at 5pm: a Saturday night worship service, followed by a potluck dinner, and showing of “Son of God”. Details will follow but wanted parishioners to “Save the Date”.

Special Events meetings for summer are July 16th and August 20th at 7pm in the Mitcham House. Please join us in planning!

Kathy Lacouture

For Weekly Announcements and what’s happening at St. James’ visit our webpage: stjameshackettstown.org Check out the new calendar! Sign up for email news!



Bell Choir “Notes”

The St. James’ Multi-Generational Bell Choir rang at the 10 AM service on Sunday, June 22, Musician Recognition Sunday. The piece was *Festive Celebration* by Kevin McChesney. During the playing of this piece several different bell techniques are used, producing very different sounds.

As we approach the end the 2013-2014 school year and program year for the church, I want to thank each and every ringer for their dedication and commitment to the Bell Choir. They are a tremendous group to work with. The Bell Choir members for this program year are David Bernauer, Scott Carson, Drew Lacouture, Pam Laura, Brian Nolan, Meredith Nolan, Chika Okoye, Sam Olshan, Marge Schafetz, Amelia Vitalos and Melissa Vitalos. Thank you also to the Bell Choir college student, Katie Lacouture, and to Sylvia Okoye and Tina Okoye for their help during the year. And thank you also to our Christmas helper, Steven Bernauer. While we work hard and focus on preparing music for worship services, we also laugh together, support each other and even share a meal at times..

We were happy to have Melissa Vitalos join the Bell Choir as a regular member this fall after trying out bells in spring 2013.

It was a sorrowful year for the Bell Choir as longtime and very faithful member Helen Wise lost her battle with cancer. We all miss her very much. A shadow box containing her gloves and other Bell Choir items now hangs in the balcony. Thank you to Rev. Betsy Myers for blessing this memorial last March.

We send our best wishes to Bell Choir members Brian and Meredith Nolan as they await the birth of their son in late September/early October. The Bell Choir looks forward to participating in the baby’s baptismal service in the fall.

The Bell Choir is very proud of Drew Lacouture who received the Dwight D. Eisenhower Leadership Award. He was recognized for his performance and potential in academics, athletics, community service, good citizenship and leadership ability. As Bell Choir director, I really appreciate that Drew includes Bell Choir membership along his many school, sports and scouting activities. Congratulations, Drew, from all of us in the Bell Choir.

The Bell Choir also asks that you support Chika Okoye as her parents live in northern Nigeria where much of the fighting is taking place. Please keep Chika and her family in your prayers. We also ask that you pray for the many young girls kidnapped from their school.

Too early to think about the fall? Not really. Much of my preparation for the fall, both as organist and Bell Choir Director, will be done during the summer.

Looking for a fun activity while being with a wonderful group of people? Look no further than the St. James’ Multi-Generational Bell Choir. We are always looking for additional ringers. We own three octaves of bells and sometimes we can only use two or two and one-half of the octaves because of the number of ringers available. So occasionally there are bells that are just waiting to get out of their storage boxes and into the sunshine and ring! Maybe you can help free these bells!

If you have questions about the time commitment or any other questions about being a member of the Bell Choir, just call me at 732-807-3211 or 201-826-0394 or email me at lolshan@ccm.edu. Feel free to talk with the members of the Bell Choir also.

Best wishes for a restful, relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Louise Olshan
Bell Choir Director

Music "Notes"



On Sunday, June 22, we honored all our musicians for the time and talent they have given to St James' this past year. From our adult singers to our ringers to our youngest choristers, these members of our parish family have provided musical leadership and uplifting music at Sunday services and special celebrations.

I want to shout out especially to our youngest singers who did not get recognized on that Sunday but should have! They are a somewhat captive audience because their choir rehearsals take place during Sunday School; they are an enthusiastic group despite their sometimes small numbers! So, to all our Sunday School Youth Choir singers....Thank You!!

One last recognition goes to Louise for her untiring work with the Bell Choir as well as her work on the organ bench. We continue to be blessed to have her with us. Thank you again, Louise!

A note about music this summer: Betsy has been busy preparing our Summer Service music. We will be exploring new words to familiar tunes with hymns taken from "Old Wine in New Wineskins" as well as selections from other hymnal supplements such as "Wonder, Love, and Praise", and "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (affectionately known to church musicians as "LEVAS"). The Senior Choir has used pieces from both of these books as anthem music and the hymn "People Look East", which we sing during our Advent Lessons & Carol service, comes from "Wonder, Love, and Praise". Be sure to let Betsy know your thoughts on the new music.

Thank you,
Pam Laura



[St. James' Episcopal Church Hackettstown](#)

Fundraising Report

I The St. James' FRC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6 PM in the Mitcham House. Our next meeting is scheduled for July 9th.

Scrip Pro - Next orders are due on July 13th. Think about using gift cards for summer sales, back-to-school shopping and of course, the Tricky Tray!

Tricky Tray planning is beginning. Please start thinking about our event, which is being held on September 27th, by making a donation of time, treasure or talent for our biggest fundraiser of the year. Also, get those sale coupons to any member of the FRC. We love Kohl's 30% off as we can get some great values to make nice baskets! You might also want to donate a Scrip Pro gift card instead of putting together a basket...we need gift cards for this event as well!

Thanks for your support in our fundraising efforts!

St. James' FRC
Barbara White, Ellen Infante,
Ann Dutton, Barbara Olesen

A Happy Bell Choir Director

When I announced that after June 22 the Bell Choir members could enjoy a well-deserved vacation for July and August, one member asked if we could play during the summer. Well, can you imagine how happy that made me feel? Imagine enjoying ringing so much that someone is asking to ring in the summer. Several other members said they would also enjoy ringing in the summer. So you may actually hear the bells this summer. And the Bell Choir director will be smiling away.

I am concerned about the acoustics in the Great Hall, especially after the use of the drum a few summers ago in the Great Hall. We will be working on finding a place to stand so the sound does not reverberate through the room.

Thank you to the Bell Choir member who asked for this and to all those who jumped in and also offered to ring this summer. What a great bunch of folks you are to work with!

An amazed and happy Louise Olshan, Director

YARN TWISTERS

The year is getting away from us and it will soon be time to send off our package of knitted/ crocheted items to the Seaman's Institute so that the ditty bags can be assembled for all the mariners who visit the Port of Newark over the holidays and look forward to their warm hats



and scarves. Louise Olshan, Phyllis Bartkus and I are working on projects at home and when we are on the road, There is plenty of yarn in the bins in the closets in the Great Hall and patterns can be downloaded from the SCI website at:

www.seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea If you need any information, please contact me at frlbailey1@comcast.net. Last year we donated 28 scarves, 28 watch caps, toiletries, and calendars. Let's see if we can match or beat this amount this year!

The following items can be collected during the year. 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

Thank you,

Linda Miller

Journal Deadline

SEPTEMBER EDITION:

August 31st

ST. JAMES' 6TH ANNUAL

GOLF OUTING

SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

We gratefully recognize those who donated to our 6th annual golf outing and encourage you to acknowledge and support them by your patronage

Allamuchy Liquors	Farmstead Golf
Bea McNally's	Great Bear Golf
Calico Country Flowers	Hawk Point Golf
Frank's Trattoria	Minebrook Golf
Gabby's Pizza	Panther Valley Golf
Jeff's Discount Golf	Black Oak Golf
Mama's & Café Baci	Classic Ballroom
Wolf Hollow at Watergap	Donaldson's Nursery
Mattar's Bistro	Fulton Bank
Niles Steakhouse	Heath Village
House of the Good Shepherd	Panther Pub
Pasta Grill by Enzo's	Prickly Pear
New Image Kitchen & Bath	Stella G's
Valley Restaurant & Pub	Skylands Energy
Schooley's Mtn Chiropractic	State Farm, Jim Malay
Apple Mountain Golf	Zaytun Grill
Crystal Springs/Black Bear	Stenvall & Stenvall
Country Club of Poconos	Dentistry
Wolf Hollow at Watergap CC	Sammons Securities,
Shawnee Resort & Golf	Glenn Stevens



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St. James' Staff & Vestry

Supply Priest:	The Rev. Elizabeth Myers
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:	David Lacouture
Junior Warden:	Carol Novrit

Paul Bartkus	Peter Quelly	Ann Edens
Peter Gartelmann	David Handville	Bill Critchley
Barbara Olesen	Chika Okoye	Ellen Infante

Vestry Clerk:	Jayne Mutascio
Treasurer:	Janice Cipriani
Asst. Treasurer:	Ricky Okoye
Bookkeeper:	Ellen Infante

Barbara Olesen, Editor

Linda Ayres, Production

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