



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

MAY 2015

REV. ARTHUR "GUY" FOUTS, PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

This Month In Stewardship



A reflection that I read recently referenced Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth in which he used the parts of a body as a metaphor for the diversity of gifts in body of Christ. The point, as you recall, was that although we may have different gifts, they are from the same spirit. Not everyone is an ear, or foot or eye, etc.

This all came to mind as I participated in and observed our rummage sale last week. We had a very good turn-out of support from our congregation. Just as described in Corinth, we had many gifts of the body mobilized. Not gifted in the skills of sorting and discernment, I was a hauler. I carried "stuff" up from the basement to the parish hall where organizers, unpackers and sorters arranged the treasures into categories within categories, and within other categories on the tables for sale. Those with the eyes of the body took charge of sorting the goods as they were brought up by the haulers' hands.

This all took place from Thursday afternoon into the early evening. Next, on Friday and Saturday, the eyes, ears and mouths answered questions about sale items, closed sales and collected money. They also rearranged items on the tables and made sure that items not likely to sell were moved outside. As 3:00 on Saturday arrived, the haulers reappeared, the packers repacked and our treasures were either moved outside for free collection, or once again placed in boxes. These tubs and boxes of clothing and boxes of glass and pottery were toted down to the basement for the future use. By 4:30 the parish hall tables were rearranged and the areas cleaned.

Stewardship and discipleship were displayed in action. Gently used items were recycled for reuse and the proceeds will be used in support of our mission and ministry. Members of the "Here I am, Lord" brigade stepped forward, rolled up sleeves and did the work needed to support our church. What was absent were the sounds of complaints. What was present were the sounds of fellowship and good cheer. Well done and done well!

Now a word about last month's question about the holiday grocery bags. A couple folks answered the question about how long the children from Sunday School had been putting together food for holiday gift bags. The consensus was that Jerry Sheard started the tradition when The Rev. Duncan Clarke was our rector. Back then the food was put in laundry baskets and only about four or five were constructed. In our last iterations of this tradition we assembled 21 bags of food. Reminds me of loaves and fishes, but that's a stewardship article for another time.

Thanks for reading this,
Paul Bartkus

Maintenance Morning

Thanks to Paul and Phyllis Bartkus for coordinating our last Maintenance Morning on March 28th. Many hands made for accomplishing a lot! Please join us on May 9th for our next Parish grounds clean-up and repair.

Saturday, May 9th

9 AM—12 PM

Coffee and goodies served!

SAVE THE DATE!



The annual church picnic will be held on June 14th at the Field of Dreams in Independence Twps. Watch for more details in the June Journal!

Worship Survey Summary For St. James Vestry

The worship survey constructed and conducted by Pam Laura indicated that most of the congregation accepted the two services we already have - the 8am and the 10am services. There were a few respondents who would be willing to go to 9am service if only one service was possible and the 8am service was eliminated. The option of a 9:30am and a Saturday evening service were also mentioned.

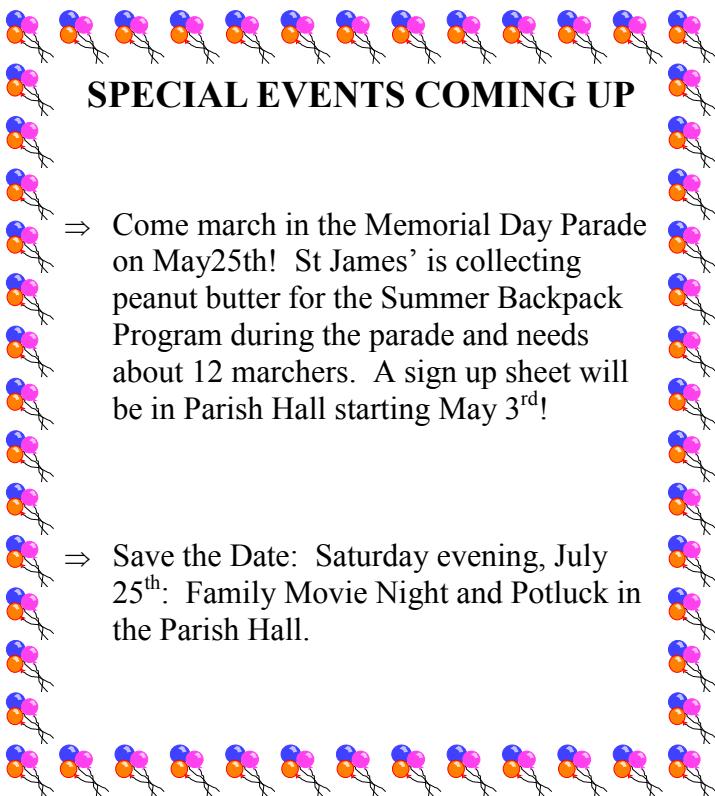
Regarding the Liturgy to be used, there was a preference for a mix, using Rite I at certain services and using Rite II for others, with a slight preference for Rite II. However there was major agreement that having Holy Eucharist every Sunday was the overwhelming preference. Where Holy Eucharist every Sunday is not possible a mix of Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist would be acceptable to the congregation. It was noted that the residents of Health Village have access to Eucharist every Tuesday. While no clear preference as to the particular Rite was made, the singing of the Lord's Prayer was not a favorite and some missed the Doxology. The use of different rites makes for variety and adds meaning to the service. Some found Rite I wordy and long; having services without music was also acceptable.

People were not particularly interested in having a choir but wanted a service to have what is termed as full music, hymns and service music but no choir. Some felt that the congregation needed some lead in the singing from a choir; however others felt we were not a singing congregation and singing was not particularly important. Music at the 10:00 AM service and occasionally at the 8:00 AM service were suggested. Others suggested more upbeat music and the use of instruments other than the organ such as a guitar.

Conclusion

The survey indicates that the congregation prefers a 10am service with Eucharist every Sunday and an 8am service that has no music. The Use of Rite II and with full music, a choir is not necessary although having one would be nice for the 10am service. The 8am service with Eucharist is also essential. Additional comments indicated that the congregation craves more structure with respect to the service, inclusion and communication with respect to happenings within the church especially at this time of transition and generally a more traditional service (e.g. the peace should be short and the announcements should occur at the end of the service so as not to take away from the service itself). The Eucharist was seen as the most important aspect of the service and is not to be compromised. The provision of a better bulleting format with announcements and other instructions clearly stated would provide information that is not confusing particularly for newcomers and irregular church attendees. Further details can be found in the actual statements compiled by Pam Laura.

Chika Okoye



Alex Van Clef Receives Confirmation

On Saturday, April 18th, Alex Van Clef received Confirmation. The service was held for Districts 1 and 6 at Trinity and St. Philip's Cathedral in Newark. The Right Reverend Mark M. Beckwith, Bishop of Newark, was the celebrant and preacher.

In Confirmation, those baptized at an early age make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism, receiving the laying on of hands by the Bishop. In this Sacramental Rite, the Holy Spirit is invoked upon those making their profession before the Bishop, who represents the whole church.

Also at the service, Reception was held for those who had already been confirmed in other branches of the Catholic Church, and who desired to be received by the Bishop into the Episcopal Church.

Reaffirmation was also offered for those who had been previously baptized and confirmed, and desired to reaffirm their baptismal vows in the presence of the Bishop for their own spiritual renewal, rededication to Christ and active participation in the full fellowship of Christ's Church.

To prepare for Confirmation, Alex attended six classes at Church of the Messiah in Chester lead by the Rev. Margaret Otterburn. He also attended an overnight Confirmation Retreat at Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center in Port Murray. For community service, he completed ten volunteer hours by serving at the Sussex County Food Pantry as part of the 30-Hour Famine, and by helping at the St. James' rummage sale.

Alex's family is very proud of his commitment and dedication in preparation to receive this sacrament. We are also very thankful for the support and prayers of the congregation as Alex prepared for Confirmation.



Photo by Rev. Ginny Dinsmore

Yarn Twisters

The Yarn Twisters container in the closet in the Great Hall continues to grow with knitted and crocheted items. Many thanks to Louise Olshan for taking her crocheting along with her on her recent cruise!



Unfortunately we have not had a get together at the Mitcham House for quite some time, but I am hopeful that we will in the near future, but I am sure that come September, we will have many items to send to the SCI. Even if you do not knit or crochet, but would like to contribute, there is a "ditty bag" pattern that is very easy – it just requires a few rows of stitching and a drawstring. These ditty bags hold the scarves, hats, and toiletries and are handed out at Christmas to the seafarers.

There is plenty of yarn in the closet in the Great Hall and patterns can be downloaded from the SCI website at: www.seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact me and I will be more than happy to download a pattern for you.

Linda Miller

Organist and Bell Choir “Notes”

Thank you to everyone who welcomed me back as Substitute Organist for a few weeks. It feels so good to be at St. James’ again. It feels like I am home again. Vestry knows that I am willing to help out whenever I am needed as long as my schedule allows. So I may be seeing you again in the future. Currently I will be playing through May 3.

A special thank you to David Bernauer and Pam Laura for stepping up and ringing an accompaniment to the final hymn on April 19. From the comments I heard, members of the congregation found it interesting and very nice to hear.

Bell Choir started rehearsing again on April 19 and hopes to participate in the 10 AM worship services on May 3 and 17. Neither piece is based on a hymn tune. They were selected because they have interesting melodies and use various ringing techniques, making them fun to ring. I hope the choir agrees with me! Please listen on both Sundays and see if you can determine how many different techniques are used in each piece. For May 3 the piece is *Prelude* from the *Second Suite for Handbells* by Michael Helman. On May 17 the piece is *Echoes* by Bill Ingram.

May 17 will be the end of the program year for the Bell Choir. I appreciate how everyone involved was willing to work around my schedule and lengthy vacations. Thank you to each member for making the 2014-2015 program year special for me, especially for ringing on my final Sunday as regular organist.

Drew Lacouture will be off to college in August. We wish him the very best and thank him for his dedicated service to the Bell Choir these past four years. He is a great musician. I so very much appreciate that he always made time for Bell Choir even though he had a very busy schedule with scouting, sports and school activities. I hope he will ring here at St. James’ whenever possible during his college years.

St. James’ is truly blessed to have such dedicated and faithful members of the Multi-Generational Bell Choir. This year the ringers were David Bernauer, Scott Carson, Drew Lacouture, Pam Laura, Chika Okoye, Sam Olshan, Marge Schafetz, Amelia Vitalos and Melissa Vitalos. Many thanks to each of you for a terrific year.

Enjoy your summer vacation. May you find your summer to be relaxing and allow you to refresh and be rejuvenated.

Louise Olshan
Substitute Organist
Multi-Generational Bell Choir Director

Journal Deadline

JUNE 2015 EDITION:

May 31st

Fundraising Report

The St. James’ FRC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting is May 13th at 6:00 PM in the Mitcham House.

Thanks to all who participated in the Rummage Sale through donations and time spent to organize. With many hands (including our new Priest-in-Charge Guy Fouts) we were able to set up in two hours and clean up in less time than set up! Many members of our church came out to help with the sales and we actually had some fellowship time when sales slowed down. We were able to raise \$1,071 which goes to the mission and ministry of St. James’!

The FRC has decided that a Tricky Tray this year is not viable and will be putting our efforts into helping out with the golf outing. Please see one of the members of the Golf Outing Committee if you would like to help.

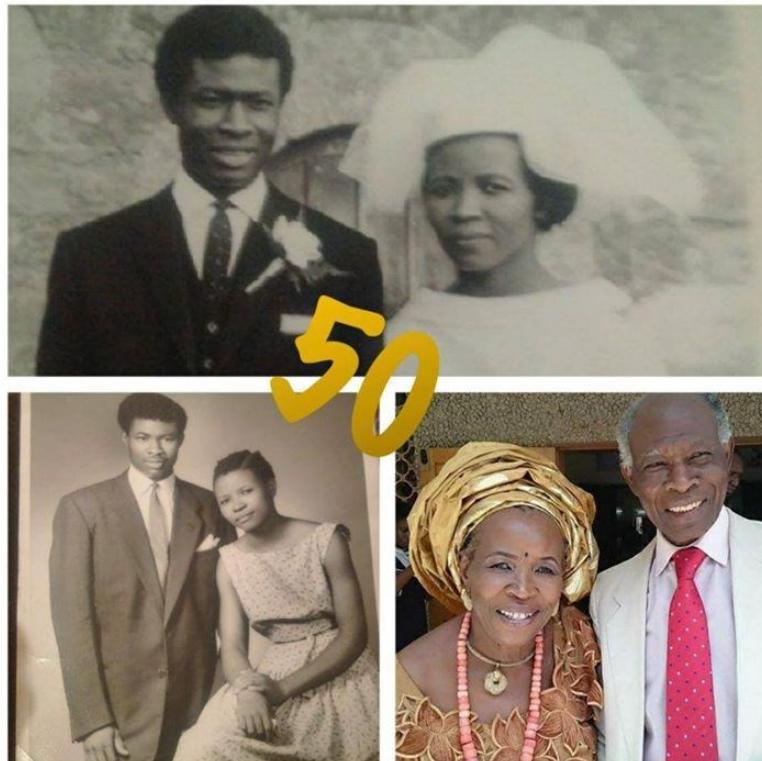
Our Scrip Pro Gift Card Program continues throughout the year with orders being due the 2nd Sunday of each month. The next order date is May 10th. We are able to raise several hundred dollars a year with this program. Please consider buying gift cards for spring cleaning/repair from major home-improvement stores. And don’t forget those Spring/Summer fashions.....we sell cards for all major clothing retailers. And who doesn’t need gas?

Thanks for your continued support!

Barbara White, Ellen Infante,
Ann Dutton, Cheryl Perkins & Barbara Olesen

A 50th Wedding Anniversary

On April 19, 2015 my parents, Innocent and Mercy Uwakwe celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They have been completely devoted to each other for more than 50 years and have the six of us children to show for it. One thing that has kept their marriage strong is their unwavering belief in God's love, a belief they passed on to their children. As the first of those children and the one who is furthest away I am grateful that I still have them as examples, as advisers and as people who constantly pray for me, my family and my church, St. James. I congratulate my parents on their Golden Wedding anniversary.



Additionally, I would like to congratulate my parents on their birthdays: my mother will be 75 on May 9th and my father will be 80 on May 20th. They have lived in some really turbulent times in Nigeria, but I thank God that they are relatively healthy and continue to look forward and remain optimistic in their faith in humanity.

Happy Birthday Mummy and Daddy!

Chika Okoye

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!

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ST. JAMES'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Save the Date!!



**7TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
St. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2015
1 PM SHOTGUN START
REGISTRATION@12 NOON**

**FARMSTEAD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
LAFAYETTE, NJ**

4-PERSON SCRAMBLE FORMAT

**\$125 / PERSON INCLUDES:
LUNCH AND BUFFET DINNER
GIFT BAG, CONTESTS & PRIZES**

**JOIN IN AS A TEAM OR INDIVIDUAL
REGISTRATION DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

**ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
214 WASHINGTON ST.
HACKETTSTOWN, NJ 07840**

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St. James' Staff & Vestry

Priest in Charge	Rev. Arthur "Guy" Fouts
Rector Emeritus:	The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Parish Administrator:	Julie Mills
Substitute Organist	Louise Olshan (through May 3rd)
Bell Choir Director:	Louise Olshan
Sexton:	Pauline Volkert

Vestry

Senior Warden:	David Lacouture
Junior Warden:	Barbara Olesen
Paul Bartkus	Peter Quelly
Nancy Miller	Chris Krauss
	Chika Okoye
	Bill Critchley
	Claudia Scala
	Janice Cipriani

Vestry Clerk:	Claudia Scala
Treasurer:	Janice Cipriani
Bookkeeper:	Ellen Infante
Assistant Bookkeeper	Claudia Scala

Barbara Olesen, Editor

All Journal submissions
should be sent to:

stjames214@comcast.net
& olesen@comcast.net

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