



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

JUL/AUG 2015

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



This Month in Stewardship

Our budget is presently under review by the Finance Committee and the vestry. Some of the assumptions we made when the budget was crafted have changed and we need an up-to-date map of our finances so that we can see if we are on track through the rest of the year.

One area of our budget concerns our buildings and property. This involves areas of general maintenance, repair and development. As we have discussed previously, there are plenty of areas that need attention in older structures such as ours. Another area that we must address is planning for our parish hall mortgage. All this is enough to make one's head spin, lest we forget that we're in this together (and together we can do great things).

We need to be reminded, sometimes, that we have our buildings, not so that we can pay electric and heating bills, but that they allow us a sacred place for worship and a place for expression of our mission and ministries, such as outreach. We don't have doors so that we can trap in the Spirit, or our heat and AC cooling. We have doors so that they can be opened to share the Spirit. Look at the cornerstone of the parish hall. It states, "Open Doors."

What began as a hallway with tables practically spilling over with bags of food (packed the previous Sunday), eventually morphed into empty flat surfaces adorned only with food item labels, ready for the next "Shop" delivery day (except for the ubiquitous jars of peanut butter and jelly, which are always there).

What is so special about this? And what does giving away food have to do with stewardship? It is the end-game: mission and ministry. While we may have an image of stewardship as an appeal for contributions of treasure, time and talent, that appeal is not the end-game.

The end-game is to develop resources that can be directed toward needs. That's why we have bells (so people can be called to worship), and windows. Our windows not only let light in, but let our congregation's light out. Father Guy noted recently in a sermon that we should continue to love and care for each other. We can postulate that this love is not exclusive, holding us in and apart, but is an action meant to center us so that we can go out as disciples into the community. This is not to shut us in, but to open up and let our ministry out and people in. "Open Doors." We are called to be a place that is accessible and welcoming to all. That's why we pay electric bills, so that we can shine a light for others to see. That's what stewardship and the budget are all about. (Oh, and yes, please don't forget to keep up your pledge over the summer [wink, wink]).

Thanks for reading this,

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Paul

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Do you know our BRAND?



It seems to me that there has been a lot of talk in the media lately about brands or branding. I have not been familiar with the usage of the term “brand” other than to denote a product. However, “brand” is now used as

synonymous with reputation or image. In particular, celebrities and politicians are described as having a particular brand, or that some action may enhance or detract from their brand.

One could argue that we all have brands. Our St. James’ Church has a brand. We are seen in the community as friendly helpers. We do the Backpack Program, the Gift of Warmth and the Tree of Giving, as well as the holiday food bags.

It turns out that our Golf Outing also has a brand. Someone described it to me as an outing that is fun and friendly. This person made a distinction between the St. James’ Golf Outing and ones that are very competitive and cut-throat, not very much fun for a casual golfer. But that, it seems, is our niche. We are the friendly church with the friendly golf outing.

Let’s keep up the good work and share the word!

Paul Bartkus

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!

Audit Team Members Needed!

The 2014 Audit is about to start, as required by the Diocese. This is really a case where many hands can make light work! Each team member will be given one (or more, if necessary) Checklist items. Each item looks at a certain type of document such as bank statements, Vestry Meeting minutes, or Counters reports. Each item has guidelines and information that tells you what you need to look for. Sometimes it is as simple as “are there minutes for every vestry meeting that occurred in 2014?” You look through the bundle of Vestry minutes – provided electronically – and say ‘yes’ or ‘no’. Other times require more reviewing and cross-checking between sets of documents like Counters reports and bank statements. It’s pretty easy work and can be done at home. You report your findings to me via email and I assemble the feedback into the report. I will also be doing several of the items. The completed Audit Report gets reviewed by the Finance committee and the vestry and is then sent to the Diocese. The Report is due to the Diocese by September 1, but they don’t hold our feet to the fire if the report is delayed.

If you are willing to help with this important work, please let Pam Laura know either at church or by email (plaura@verizon.net). Thank you!

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

MINI RUMMAGE SALES

Be on the lookout over the summer for a special table set up in the Parish Hall with rummage sale items. We have items, mostly new, that the FRC would love to sell. There will be a jar on the table for donations for items you wish to purchase. Item selection will change as items are purchased—thanks for your support!

“Notes” from a Supply Organist

While I am only one of your supply organists now, I do take worship and liturgy very seriously wherever I am playing. As such, I have been working very hard to provide anthems whenever I serve at St. James’. I hope the music group that has been formed has helped not only in leading the congregational singing and also that the anthems have added to the worship experience.

On June 21 David Bernauer along with Pat and Richard Hawkins sang *Pass It On*. David sang the melody and Pat and Richard created an alto part and bass part, respectively. What talented singers to create a singing part; what a great piece and what a great sound. David carried the melody. We had some fun and said the group should have been billed as David and the Pip Squeak. Those of a certain age will recognize the reference to Gladys Knight and the Pips. Pat and Richard said they were the “backup” to David. Thank you to everyone who shared those wonderful comments with the singers. Those very kind words are very much appreciated.

On June 28 the singing group sang *Dona Nobis Pacem* as a three part round. The title translates as “Give us peace”. In light of the many recent tragedies in the world this piece was selected to give hope, strength and comfort. Singers were David Bernauer, Richard Hawkins, Nancy Miller, Chika Okoye and Louise Olshan. Again thank you for the positive comments.

A very sincere thank you to each singer for sharing their time and talents with the congregation. The singers for June have been David Bernauer, Pat Hawkins, Richard Hawkins, Nancy Miller, Chika Okoye and Louise Olshan.

I will be at St. James’ on July 12 and July 26. We are planning on having an anthem at one or both of these services. If you would like to be a part of the group, just call me at 732-807-3211 or send an email to LoL-shan@ccm.edu and I will keep you informed of our plans.

Louise Olshan

A Midsummer Family Night

Potluck and a Movie, featuring the movie: “UP”

Saturday July 25th

Potluck at 5:30-signup sheet in Parish Hall

Movie at 7:00 pm

“UP” is a great family movie for all generations. Feel free to invite friends, family, and neighbors! Kids welcome to bring PJ’s, sleeping bags, and stuffed friends.

Popcorn and soft drinks provided.

If you have questions contact Kathy Lacouture at 908-850-9214 or at lockwood88@comcast.net.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Thanks to Peter Quelly and crew for coordinating the Annual Church Picnic held at Independence Field of Dreams on June 14th. Thanks also for those who attended and brought food. It was a beautiful day and a great service complemented by music from Guy Fouts and Dave Olesen on acoustic guitars!



**Bishop Michael Bruce Curry
from North Carolina
Elected 27th Presiding Bishop
of The Episcopal Church**

[June 27, 2015] The Rt. Rev. Michael Bruce Curry, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, was elected the 27th Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church on the first ballot on June 27.

Bishop Curry, 62, is the first African-American to be elected Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church.

The election occurred during the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church.

Of the 174 votes tallied, Bishop Curry received 121 (89 needed to elect).

Following his election by the House of Bishops, Bishop Curry's election was overwhelmingly confirmed by the House of Deputies, 800 for, 12 against.

Meet Presiding Bishop-Elect Curry

Bishop Curry was ordained Bishop of North Carolina on June 17, 2000.

His experience includes:

1988-2000: Rector, St. James' Episcopal Church, Baltimore, Maryland

1982-1988: Rector, St. Simon of Cyrene Episcopal Church, Lincoln Heights, Ohio

1982-1988: Chaplain, Bethany School

1978-1982: Rector, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Winston Salem, North Carolina

He has served on a number of Episcopal Church Committees, a Commissions, Agencies, and Boards:

- Chair, Board of Directors, Episcopal Relief & Development (current)
- Board of Trustees, Saint Augustine's University (current)
- North Carolina Council of Churches (current)
- Moral Monday movement (current)
- Chair, Advisory Committee, Office of Black Ministries (current)
- Bishop Visitor, Community of the Transfiguration (current)
- TREC/Task Force for Reimagining the Episcopal Church
- General Convention Committees: Evangelism, Global Mission
- Standing Commission on World Mission
- Union of Black Episcopalians
- Institute of Christian and Black Studies of Baltimore
- Ecumenical Clergy on the Square, Revival and Citizens on Patrol (Baltimore)
- Jubilee Ministry, St. James' Afterschool Academy, Baltimore
- Board, Episcopal Social Ministries, Diocese of Maryland
- Chair and Co-Chair, convention Planning Team, Diocese of Maryland
- Commission on Ministry, Dioceses of Maryland, Southern Ohio and North Carolina
- General Board of Examining Chaplains
- Board and Faculty, College of Preachers
- Coordinator, The Racism Steering Committee, Diocese of Southern Ohio
- Board, Winston-Salem Urban League

He holds a Bachelors of Arts, with High Honors from Hobart and William Smith College; a Masters of Divinity from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale; Continuing Studies at The College of Preachers, Princeton Theological Seminary, Wake Forest University, The Ecumenical Institute of St. Mary's Seminary and Institute of Jewish Christian Studies; and D.D., *honors causa*, from Sewanee The University of the South, Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, Virginia Theological Seminary, and The Episcopal Divinity School

An author, his publications include:

- Songs My Grandmother Sang (Morehouse Publishing, Spring 2015)
- Crazy Christians: a Call to Follow Jesus (Morehouse Publishing, 2013)
- "Some Strange Things Are Happening in Charlotte", opinion, (The Huffington Post, Sept. 4, 2012)
- "Stay in the City", sermon (The African American Pulpit, Judson Press, 1999 issue)
- "Abyssinian Annals," a weekly column(The Baltimore Times)
- Essay ("Joy", Forward Movement, 1995)
- Article Series (Episcopal Life, September 1993- May 1994)
- "Servant Woman" and "There's Power in the Word " , sermons (Sermons that Work 11, Forward Movement Publications)

Married to Sharon, they are the parents of two adult children.

7th Annual Golf Outing

The 7th Annual St. James' Golf Outing was held on June 29 at Farmstead Golf & Country club. Registrations began shortly after 11 AM and continued almost up to tee-off time of 1 PM.

This year we had a record 91 golfers! The organizing committee worked hard to line up sponsors and donations from local restaurants and golf courses. The golf outing was followed by a dinner and raffle of prizes and a 50/50. The committee was able to raise over \$6,000 for St. James'!

Thanks go out to those who worked on the committee and volunteered on the day of the event. We are also grateful for Hole Sponsorship donations, both from Parish Members and local businesses, as well as the restaurants and golf courses that donated prizes!



WELCOME TO THE ST. JAMES' GOLF OUTING!



**HOPE TO SEE YOU
AGAIN NEXT YEAR!**



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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
Bell Choir Director:	Louise Olshan
Sexton:	Pauline Volkert

Vestry

Senior Warden:	David Lacouture
Junior Warden:	Barbara Olesen

Paul Bartkus	Peter Quelly	Bill Critchley
Nancy Miller	Chris Krauss	Claudia Scala
	Chika Okoye	Janice Cipriani

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

Barbara Olesen, Editor

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should be sent to:

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& olesen@comcast.net

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