



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

MARCH 2019

Rev. Dr. Franklin "Skip" Vilas—Supply Priest



This Month In Stewardship

“How Ya Do-in?”

“How ya do-in?” Joey on the TV series, *Friends*, was famous for asking this signature question. Our Annual Meeting is the vehicle for our Vestry’s answer to how we are doing. The meeting has a formal basis in that it is required that we meet as a corporate body each year, but more importantly, it provides a designated opportunity to review our past years’ journey, to thank those in leadership who have served, to vote on those who have offered to serve, and to look ahead to our next year.

Let’s look at what to expect. First, there will be food! We eat when we meet. There will also be booklets to read over and review. One will look back at the activities of each of our committees or groups. The accomplishments and challenges will be updated and described. Look these over with an eye to considering joining one as part of your pledge of time and talent. Remember that we are a thriving, small congregation that, although we may seem small, we are mighty. Another booklet will contain copies of our new budget and statements of financial position, Fund Raising and Mission Strategy accounts. As we are called to live lives of gratitude, so it is fitting that we give thanks for those who have worked to make us mighty. We thank those who will be “rolling” off the Vestry,

Sam Wood, Janice Cipriani and Pam Laura. We also vote to accept those who are stepping forward to serve, Meg Critchley, Anne Dutton and Pam Laura, who will continue to serve as our Vestry clerk.

In the spirit of giving thanks, we also give acknowledge the service of our staff members, Pauline Volkert, Dmitry Nikolaev and Julie Mills. We also honor the work of Barbara Olesen who puts together our Journal and who will be the compiler-in-chief and editor-in-chief of the Annual Reports.

One more thing. There may also be surprises. It may not be a car raffle or chance to foster Kevin Bacon for a year, but something. So, join us on March 10th after our one service at 9:00 AM in the Snyder Parish Hall and you will see “How we’re do-in.”



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

In Memory of

Scott Andrew Carson

Nov 5, 1960-Jan 29, 2019



Scott was born in Jersey City and grew up in Parsippany. He lived at the Jersey Shore before moving to Hackettstown. He spent years working in the Engineering field as a drafter and designer.

Growing up Scott played hockey on Lake Parsippany. He was a goalie and played in over 30 leagues in his 20's. He was a fan of all the local teams: NY Rangers, NJ Devils and the Islanders, and he liked watching the games on TV and would stay up late to finish watching them.

Scott loved family vacations at Ocean City. He would go fishing even though he did not eat fish! He used to own a boat and talked about owning another one.

Scott was a bowler and was on several teams throughout his life. He played in local tournaments as well.

Cooking was fun for him and he would get recipes from watching the Food Network. He especially loved the holidays and always had to have the biggest Christmas Tree. He liked to decorate the tree and one year won the town award.

Scott battled bone marrow cancer for 9 years. He struggled with treatments and was determined to beat this, and remained positive. He will be missed by his St. James' family.

Scott is survived by his wife Carol, daughter Kristen, son Trever, his mother Elise, and sisters Wendy, Melissa & Vanessa.

A memorial serviced was held at a packed St. James' on Saturday, March 2nd at 11:00 AM. Donations in the name of Scott may be made as follows:

St. James' Episcopal Church
214 Washington St.
Hackettstown, NJ 07840.

Upcoming Events

- 3/3 No Family Breakfast
- 3/6 Ash Wednesday Service 7 PM
- 3/9 Daylight Saving Time
- 3/10 One Service 9 AM
- Annual Meeting following service
- Gertrude Hawk Candy Orders Due
- 3/12 Special Events Meeting 7:15 PM
- 3/16 Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner 5:30 PM
- 3/17 Installation of Vestry
- 3/21 Finance Committee Meeting 7 PM
- 3/28 Vestry Meeting 7 PM
- 3/31 Easter Food Bags Distributed
- Journal Articles Due
- 4/7 Sign Up for Passion Readings

Hope for Henry

Prayers are requested for Henry Aulenbach, a seven-year old who was recently found to have a brain tumor as well as some spots along his spine. He has had surgery to remove the tumor, but he has a long road ahead with lots of hospital stays. To see Henry's story, visit HopeforHenry on Facebook. Henry loves opening cards. If you would like to send one his address is:

Henry Aulenbach
7 Purple Martin Dr.
Hackettstown NJ 07840

If you are interested in helping out with some meals for the family, please contact Bev Wheeler or Barbara



Youth Saturday

A fun time was had by all on February 3rd making cards, playing games and decorating cupcakes!



Just found out about this website and wondered if as a "community service message," we should give it place in the Journal.

It seems there is an organization that will provide housekeeping service once a month for 4 months for any woman undergoing chemotherapy. She only needs to have her MD fax a letter confirming treatment.

Website is www.cleaningforareason.org

Phone number 877-337-3348 x 303

I learned about this from my brother..he is very active with the American Cancer society since his wife, my sister-in-law, passed away in Summer 2017 from lung cancer.

Meg Critchley

Thank you for the information Meg! Below is a short description of Cleaning For A Reason taken from their website:

Cleaning For A Reason is a nonprofit organization that serves all the United States and Canada. Our mission is to give the gift of free house cleaning to women undergoing treatment for any type of cancer. Our goal is to let these brave and strong women focus on their health and treatment while we focus on, and take away the worry and work of, cleaning their homes– free of charge. We have recruited over 1,200 maid services to donate free housecleaning to women who are undergoing treatment for cancer. Since 2006, our partner maid services have volunteered their time to clean for over

Journal Deadline

April 2019 Edition



**ST JAMES' CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE
FELLOWSHIP DINNER**

SATURDAY MARCH 16th 5:30 TO 7:30 PM

IN SNYDER HALL

\$10. PER ADULT; KIDS UNDER 12 FREE

-CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE-

-CARROTS AND IRISH SODA BREAD-

-DESSERT & SOFT DRINKS PROVIDED / BYOB-

FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME

IRISH MUSIC, CRAFTS FOR THE KIDS, FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL

**Need a ride? Questions? Call Kathy or Dave Lacouture to
908-850-9214 or email to lockwood88@comcast.net**

PLEASE RESPOND BY RETURNING BELOW BY 3/12

_____ **Your name**

_____ **# of Adults @\$10. Per person**

_____ **# of Children**

___ **Yes, I will bring a dessert**

___ **Yes, I will make Irish Soda Bread**



Diocese of Newark, NJ 145th Convention

Convention Summaries from Our Delegates

When asked to be a delegate to Convention, I tried to decline but Paul Bartkus reassured me, "You'll only be an alternate. You won't have to go." Guess what...life happened and I was on my way to convention representing St James'.

Being negative on all things "convention," I spent the few weeks before the February 1-2 dates stomping around our little apartment whining and complaining to such a degree that Bill finally told me to get over it and change my attitude or I would ruin the event for everyone around me. I took his words to heart (he is always right) and then advised my fellow delegates ...Chika and Pam...that they were to poke me, pinch me, or kick me under the table if I made any snarky comments.

Convention was two protracted days.....up early, drive to a distal hotel, and even longer days of workshops and committee reports. The theme of Convention was Gifted - Called - Sent. A good portion of each day was set aside for group reflection and discussion on readings from Scripture that supported the topic. It brought me back to my own views on Stewardship...that no matter how insignificant we might perceive our own gifts, God will make our efforts sufficient for His purpose. What matters is that we bring the love of God wherever we go.

I attended a workshop on dementia presented by the Senior Ministry of the diocese. The speaker was a licensed social worker well versed in this topic from personal experience as well as her professional focus. After years of working in long term care I have an adequate grasp on the symptoms as well as the impact of dementia. I was hoping for some concrete methods for supporting seniors when dementia begins to interfere with their ability to stay active in the church. Unfortunately, the workshop didn't offer any suggestions. This is puzzling to me. Perhaps the focus from the get-go was to make the workshop attendees merely aware of the symptoms of dementia. Or maybe the fault was that the workshop leader had no experience in the Episcopal Church.

On Saturday I sat in on a workshop on Shared Ministry. Although the speakers emphasized the importance of each parish getting involved in its community and partnering with other denominations and businesses to serve the community, again I came away disappointed with the content and presentation; I found it lacking in substance. There were few suggestions on how

to make this happen.

For me the highlight of Convention was the chance to experience the Eucharist celebrated both days by Bishop Hughes and to hear her preach. She did not disappoint! I would encourage members of the congregation to attend Break Bread with the Bishop at Church of the Messiah in April. Check out the flyer on the bulletin board or refer to the email blast on this topic.

In her homilies Bishop Hughes emphasized the following points for reflection:

1. We must look to the needs of people both within our congregations and in our communities. On social media we might have a lot of "friends" but few deep connections.
2. The support of the physical structures of our churches has become dependent on a small group of individuals in each congregation. We need to remember that God says, "Take care of this for Me."
3. We have obligations to the youth of our parishes. The better we raise them up, the better they will be prepared to take Jesus to the world.
4. It is our duty to lead on tough issues. When we do not speak, our silence indicates approval. (I really like this one.)
5. We must let go of the way we have always done things.

In conclusion, would I participate convention in the future? Yes, although I would hope for a closer venue. I came away with an appreciation for the demands and responsibilities of leading 26,000 worshipping Episcopalians. Just like the Trinity we are all in relationship as individuals and as a community. We are a work in progress.

Meg Critchley

The theme of this year's convention is "Gifted, Called, Sent" as a way to emphasize the discovery of gifts that can be used to the Glory of God in our individual lives and the in our church and secular communities. All aspects of the convention were geared towards reinforcing the theme. The convention is also two days of meetings during which representatives of churches in the Diocese learn about the business conducted in their name. There were various reports specifying the progress of the different aspects of the Diocese. Most importantly, elections were held to fill up the assortments of committees and groups. This year voting was done digitally, and this increased voter participation as well as

reduced the expense of the ballot.

The Bishop was emphatic about everyone identifying the gifts they have individually and as a church community. She stated at every turn that it is our duty to use those gifts creatively to contribute not only to our churches but to our community at large. To help us achieve this we participated in training modules that focused on each word in the theme and we were guided towards identifying our gifts personally and as a church.

We also participated in workshops meant to help us identify how we can help our church identify areas of interest and maybe develop new ideas that would be helpful to our sense of community and make use of our gifts. I attended a workshop on making one's church more welcoming to transgender people. There were some interesting points made regarding how simple things such as using bath rooms can become really complicated when gender is made a major consideration for use. There are now federal and state laws that protect different minority categories and while we have freedom of religion and are free to have an opinion, one cannot use one's beliefs to oppress and prevent the freedom of others. Having gender neutral bathrooms, which we already have at St. James, is one way of not making bathrooms one more avenue for discrimination for transgendered individuals.

Another workshop I attended was the workshop "Youth Pop up Ministry" run out of Crossroads Camp. The youth ministry received some funding to develop a new youth ministry which looks to connect the youth in the Diocese by running programs at least once a month to begin with. These programs will be developed and run by young Fellows who are being paid to work at crossroads year-round while developing their leadership skills to become the next generation of church leaders. At convention we were encouraged to see the young people not just as the future but as the world and if we are to change the world, we must start by training them in the way they should go. What was most interesting about this workshop is that there were many young people on hand to state exactly what they felt would work for them. The use of social media is important but more important is that programs have to be fun, convenient and interesting. The young people stated that it may not be a good idea to start by over emphasizing the God angle but rather draw people in by making

any activities fun and showing by our behavior what it is to be a Christian. More works and less words.

I enjoyed the convention although because of the location this year we had to leave early to get there on time and I was ready for a nap by 3 pm. There were lots to do with respect to the workshops and the theme was appropriate. Identifying our gifts and being creative in the ways to continue to worship and keep our parishes open is a realistic approach to the challenging position of many churches in the Diocese. We have now been sent to do the work of creating new ways to spread the Good News and continuing to be the light of the world and salt of the earth.

Chika Okoye

This was my 3rd consecutive Convention. They are always a mixed bag of corporate-ness as in the business aspect of Diocesan budgets, resolutions, and elections, and corporate-ness as in the body of our Diocese coming together to see how best we can bring Christ to the world around us. There is a good chunk of time over the two days of Convention spent in exploring a particular pathway to accomplishing that second corporate-ness. This year's theme was Gifted, Called, Sent - discovering what gifts we can bring to the table. Probably to no one's surprise my gifts were music and service. We also made an inventory of our parish assets: people, buildings, associations, economic assets, spiritual asses and then looked to see ways that these assets could be linked in new ways to form potential new actions that could bring us into the surrounding community. Those were put on a poster board which is supposed to be coming to us at some point!

There are also rooms full of tables where organizations from around the Diocese give out information. Crossroads Camp has a table and The House of the Good Shepherd has a table, to name two groups we would be familiar with. One group I talked with was The Lighthouse, a group dedicated to "providing housing, hope, and healing to asylees and asylum seekers yearning to breathe free". Given the global refugee crisis, I felt drawn to this group. They have on-going needs for food, toiletries, cleaning supplies, paper products, used smartphones, gift cards, ESL tutors and language buddies. The group uses these items to help the asylees and asylum seekers set up apartments, settle into life here, develop job skills, and learn how to navigate in our culture. I'm hoping that this is something we as a parish might support by collecting needed items on a periodic basis and sending them to the group. More to come on that!

One other component of Convention is Workshops. These are usually 30-minute sessions on a variety of topics ranging from Pop-up Youth to Going Local to how to go green. There is even a workshop for first-time Convention attendees! I attended a workshop run by Alzheimer's New Jersey. They spoke about diagnosing Alzheimer's, care-giving, nutrition, and other aspects of dealing with Alzheimer's and working with people who have Alzheimer's.

Everyone ought to be a delegate at least once!

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24 8:00 AM Eucharistic Service - Rite 1 10:00 AM Eucharistic Service Rite II 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM The Church El Shaddai	25 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	26 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Literacy Tutoring	27 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM El Shaddai Church	28 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ 7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	1	2 11:00 AM Memorial Service for Scott Carson
3 No Family Breakfast today 8:00 AM Eucharistic Service - Rite 1 10:00 AM Eucharistic Service Rite II 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM The Church El Shaddai	4 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	5 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Literacy Tutoring	6 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM El Shaddai Church	7 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	8	9
10 Gertrude Hawk Candy Orders Due 9:00 AM One Service Only - Eucharistic Service - Rite II 10:00 AM Annual Parish Meeting - Snyder Hall - After 9 AM Service 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM The Church El Shaddai	11 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	12 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Literacy Tutoring 7:15 PM - 8:00 PM SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE	13 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM El Shaddai Church	14 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	15	16 5:30 PM Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner
17 Installation of Vestry 8:00 AM Eucharistic Service - Rite 1 10:00 AM Eucharistic Service Rite II 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM The Church El Shaddai	18 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	19 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM KAQ Bereavement Lunch 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Literacy Tutoring 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Joseph T Quinlan Bereavement Counseling	20 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM El Shaddai Church	21 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ 7:00 PM Finance Committee	22	23
24 8:00 AM Eucharistic Service - Rite 1 10:00 AM Eucharistic Service Rite II 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM The Church El Shaddai	25 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	26 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Literacy Tutoring	27 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM KAQ Training - Hospice Class 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM El Shaddai Church	28 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ 7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	29 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM KAQ Training - Hospice Class	30 6:00 PM El Shaddai Church
31 8:00 AM Eucharistic Service - Rite 1 10:00 AM Eucharistic Service Rite II 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM The Church El Shaddai	1 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	2 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Literacy Tutoring	3 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM KAQ Training - Hospice Class 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM El Shaddai Church	4 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM KAQ	5 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM KAQ Training - Hospice Class	6

ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

MARCH 2019

St. James' Staff & Vestry

Supply Priest	Rev. Dr. Franklin "Skip" Vilas
Rector Emeritus:	The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Parish Administrator:	Julie Mills
Organist	Dmitry Nikolaev
Sexton:	Pauline Volkert

Vestry

Senior Warden:	Paul Bartkus
Junior Warden:	Peter Quelly

Janice Cipriani	Pam Laura	Sam Wood
Nancy Miller	Gene Seiter	Kathy Erwood-Lacouture
David Olesen	Chika Okoye	Karina Hernandez

Vestry Clerk:	Pam Laura
Treasurer:	Janice Cipriani
Bookkeeper:	Barbara Olesen

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