

ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

MAY 2022

Rev. Wayne Sherrer — Priest-in-Charge



50 Days of Easter

This is Bishop Hughes in the Diocese of Newark, and it is the second week of Easter. We have several weeks of Easter because we celebrate it for 50 days. The enormity of the miracle that is resurrection is one that takes time for us to celebrate. It's also one that takes time for us to reflect on, to learn about, to think about, to explore, in order for us to live fully as resurrected people. To live as people who claim the resurrection, and claim the special relationship it gives us with God through Jesus Christ.

So, in these 50 days, if there's one thing that I am hoping every single person in this diocese would grab a hold of, is a phrase that happens in the Collect for the second Sunday of Easter. You can find it on page 224 in the Book of Common Prayer. I won't read the whole Collect, but the phrase in particular that I'm talking about says:

“Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's body, may show forth in their lives, what they profess by faith.”

That is that all of us who believe in Christ, all of us who've been baptized and confirmed in Christ, all of us who follow Jesus, all of us who spend time reading scripture, going to church, receiving Communion, saying prayers, receiving prayers, singing hymns and songs, those of us who live in that beautiful community that is Jesus Christ, that all of us would live our lives in such a way that it professes our faith that you can see in our lives, the things that we say that we believe.

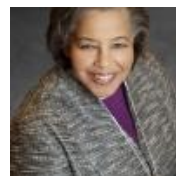
Imagine the powerful witness that would be all throughout these 50 days of Easter, if every Episcopalian took some part of these 50 days, to let people know that they are loved by God. Imagine if we spoke the words of love. Imagine if we spoke the words of healing. Imagine if we spoke the name of Jesus Christ, if we could say it with love, and generosity and care and gentleness: “I know that Jesus loves you. And I know that Jesus wants good in your life.”

That when we can bring that freedom of being able to say something to someone about the places where they're in pain, or where they hurt, or where they are lonely, and they need to know that someone else cares. When we can bring in our actions and, in our words, the things that we profess to believe. We have the ability to show resurrection to the world.

It's important right now. Now is the time for serious Christians in this world. We're at a time where it seems that nothing is more important than being right, being in control, winning at all cost, and being an individual – having things exactly our own kind of way. And it is God's love for us and our love for God's people that shows us and shows the world something completely different.

We are not alone. We are connected to each other. We're always connected to God. And that is something to celebrate every single one of these 50 days of Easter.

Bishop Carlye Hughes
April 27, 2022



Vestry Highlights

New Vestry Members!

Thank you to Jayne Mutascio, Ruth Nejemian, and Nona Wolosin who are all on for 3 years, and to Jeanette Nolan who is filling a midterm vacancy.

We thank Kathy Lacouture, Anne Dutton, Chika Okoye, Meg Critchley, Karina Hernandez, and David Olesen for their time on Vestry!

New Junior Warden

Marvin Walker. Marvin has been serving as a Vestry member and is now stepping up to fill the Junior Warden position as Dave Olesen steps down. Pete Quelly will continue as Sr. Warden until our Annual Meeting in 2023 at which time Marvin will take over as Sr. Warden.

Upcoming Building Work:

Replacing the Mitcham House roof. Bids have been reviewed and a contractor has been selected.

Work to begin in the next few weeks, hopefully.

The front steps of the church are not weathering well and they will need attention soon.

The foundation stones of the Mitcham House need repointing.

Landscaping the garden corner between the church and the Mitcham House. We are gathering bids and ideas for this project.

Fundraising

Between the Easter Gertrude Hawk candy sale and the Shop with Scrip Gift Card sale, Fundraising has raised almost \$1000!

Summer Backpack Program

Liz Wolosin has agreed to chair this program again this year but she needs assistants! More info to come but start thinking how you can help with this important community outreach.

Pam Laura
Vestry Clerk

May Birthdays

- 1-Pauline Volkert
- 7-Emma Howlin
- 9-Meg Critchley
- 13-Wendie Germain
- 13-Sophie Mahoney
- 16-Philip Sherrer
- 17-Hayden Maria Smith
- 18-Regina Sherrer
- 26-Tanya Niessen
- 29-Roy Smith
- 31-Daniel Howlin



Altar Guild Flowers

The Altar Guild of St James' is grateful for the donations made this Easter season. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation of our Church there were beautiful spring flowers to help celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord.

Meg Critchley

Easter Food Baskets

The St. James' Sunday School children packed 21 baskets for those in our area needing an Easter Dinner. Thanks to all who contributed food or Ham cards to this Annual Easter Event!



Paul and Phyllis Bartkus

Upcoming Events

- May 6th-7th Diocesan Convention
- May 8th Mother's Day
- May 22nd Awesome Amble
- May 30th Memorial Day
- June 16th Annual Church Picnic
- June 19th Father's Day

Rummage Sale

Thank you to everyone that donated items for the April 23rd Rummage Sale, and helped to set-up, work the sale and clean-up. We were able to make \$475.00 which will be put in the church general fund for the mission and ministries of the church. We had a difficult time this year getting help for the sale and will not be having another sale in the near future. We have emptied the basement of all items so we will not be taking donations for the time being. A big shout out to Janice Cipriani who was able to find a home for many of our leftovers! If you have any ideas for a fundraiser, please speak to Anne Dutton or Barbara Olesen at the phone numbers below. We are always looking for new ideas!

Anne Dutton

(908)887-7817

Barbara Olesen

(908)797-0515



Awesome Amble #4

Our next Awesome Amble is scheduled for May 22. We are expecting to stroll along a different section of the Morris Canal Greenway with a guide from the Canal Society of New Jersey.

happy
mother's
Day



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

Diocesan Convention

The 148th Annual Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Newark will be held on May 7th at Calvary in Summit. Every year the lay delegates and the clergy of the diocese meet for some official business. It is also a time when people learn about the diversity of ministries in our parishes and diocesan organizations. It both symbolizes and creates the unity of the Body of Christ as a witness to our region. Attending this year are Fr. Wayne Sherrer, Meg Critchley and Sam Wood.

Maintenance Morning

Many hands made light during the St. James' Spring Maintenance Morning on Saturday, April 16th. Mulch was spread, bushes were trimmed, weeds and pine cones behind the parish hall were removed, window A/C's were installed. Thanks to all who were able to help with this!

Special Visit to South Carolina

As Paul and I travelled north to NJ in early April, we stopped in Bluffton, SC to see Dan and Linda Miller. They moved there a few years ago, but are still very much a part of our St. James' family. As we sat on their lovely patio and chatted, the Millers asked about members of our church and how they were. Linda continues to be a major contributor to our Yarn Twisters ministry by knitting and donating beautiful hats and scarves to the Seamen's Church Institute. Our dog, Sommer, loved seeing her good friends again, as did we. Dan and Linda send their best to St. James' and thank everyone for remembering them in their prayers.

Paul and Phyllis Bartkus



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St. James' Staff & Vestry

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Wayne Sherrer
Parish Administrator: Julie Mills
Organist: Dmitry Nikolaev
Sexton: Pauline Volkert

Vestry

Senior Warden: Peter Quelly
Junior Warden: Marvin Walker

Jane Mutascio	Pam Laura	Nona Wolosin
Janice Cipriani	Ruth Nejemian	Jeanette Nolan
Marvin Walker	Devin O'Connor	Rachel Barber

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

