



STEEPLE NOTES

Newsletter for the family and friends of St. James' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Robin Martin, Interim Rector

The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel 3rd, Bishop Provisional

409 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA 19335

Parish Office: 610-269-1774

www.stjameschurch.ws email: sjeparishoffice@verizon.net

October 2014

*Hallelujah! Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever. ~ Psalm 106:1*

From the Interim Rector

The very first time John and I came to Philadelphia was in the early fall of 1975. We came as representatives of the diocese of Alabama to train consultants for the Diocese of Pennsylvania in the Alabama Plan of Stewardship. I remember meeting at a lovely old estate in Chestnut Hill which has since been converted from a conference center back to a private dwelling. There were people present at that meeting nearly forty years ago who became good friends after we moved to Philadelphia for good in 1982.

We were invited to Philadelphia back then to talk about stewardship because Alabama was onto something. In the late sixties to early seventies the Diocese of Alabama, like many other dioceses, discovered that it did not have enough money to carry forward the ministries that the people of Alabama had said were important to them. It became clear that the diocese didn't have enough money because the parishes in the diocese did not have enough money. After reflecting on this reality for a while, some very wise people decided that the answer was *not* to get the people to give more money to the parishes so that the parishes could give more to the diocese. Such a strategy would inevitably focus on the institution of the church and its programs, and people would end up giving in relationship to how they felt about the Church and what it was doing. That strategy is no different than the fund-raising that many very worthy organizations carry out year after year. The fund-raising message is: If you think what we are doing is worthwhile, support us with your money. But stewardship is not the same as fund-raising.

The basic premise of fund-raising is that what we have belongs to us.

The basic premise of stewardship is that what we have belongs to God...*all* of it!

The basic aim of fund-raising is to get us to share what is ours with someone or something else.

The basic aim of stewardship is to move us to return to God for his use through the Church a *portion* of what he has blessed us with, a *portion* of what is actually already his!

The inevitable question is, "What portion? How much is enough? Scripture is clear that the tithe or 10% of our income is the biblical minimum standard. It often looks like an impossible goal for many if not most of us when we first begin to walk the road to responsible stewardship. As I told you in an earlier Steeple Notes' article, my personal experience of over forty-five years and nearly as many years of observing the experience of others is that it is a grace-filled journey. The way is demanding and freeing at the same time.

I am committed to this journey as an essential part of my ministry with and to the people of God, not as some necessary but unpleasant addition to my "real" work as a priest. Weird as it may sound, I like stewardship as a time to help each of us look deeper at how we live out in our lives what we profess with our lips.

Robin+

THE ART OF FORGIVING

Few things can be as elusive as dealing with the hurts we inevitably receive in our lives. Many of those are minor and we get past them with relative ease. But sometimes the harm is deeper and more long lasting, and we feel incapable of taking steps to bring about healing of the wounds. If this sounds familiar to you and you would like to explore the dimensions and discover practical information about the process of forgiveness, consider the following.

On three Wednesday evenings in October, Robin will offer a class and discussion group based on the book *The Art of Forgiving* by Lewis Smedes. The group will be limited to no more than twelve participants so there is adequate time for discussion by everyone present.

Dates: October 1, 8 and 15

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Location: the Chapel

Please plan to attend every session if you sign up. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hall. You do not need to read the book to participate, but it is available on Amazon for \$6.50, and may be available at Barnes and Noble stores. Any comments or questions may be directed to Robin.

BOOK CLUB NEWS

The Book Club meets at Panera Bread in Exton (*the Giant shopping center on Swedesford Road*) the third Friday of each month at 11am. New members are always welcomed. Contact Peg Leister at peg-gyleis@aol.com for more information. We will be reading the following books:

October 17: **The Dinner by Herman Koch**

November 21: **Ella, Minnow, Pea by Mark Dunn**

SUNDAY MATTERS

Sunday School began September 14 with a lively gathering of children and youth following the 9 A.M. service. The younger kids made wonderful little posters about themselves which will be posted in the stairwell down to the Sunday School. Hope you'll take time to go look at them. The older kids met for the first time in their as-yet-unrefurbished class room to talk about how we would transform it into a cozy meeting place conducive to conversing about "important stuff." Thanks to all of you who donated furniture to the effort.

We STILL need people who are willing to give their time and talent to support this vital ministry in the congregation. Please contact Beth Sharamatew at sjcsundayschool@verizon.net or at (h) 610-280-7017 or (c) 484-437-1713 if you will help.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Now that fall is upon us we are in the midst of Halloween sales and all related harvest items. Once again, we have dedicated a section for seasonal gifts and decorations. There are costumes as well as multiple fun tops and bottoms decorated with pumpkins, leaves, witches, and ghoulish decals. The table is also filled to the brim with these holiday items. Stop in because they are going rapidly. We have changed the racks to accommodate the fall clothing and are continuously offering sales for the summer items. Each day we choose a different category such as shorts or sleeveless tops, sandals and so forth to make room for the new inventory. So keep in mind that we are no longer accepting any summer related objects. Our linen shelf has been modified by our volunteer Marnie deCarville. Prior to the adjustment the towels, comforters, and curtains were always falling behind the shelf to the floor or on the heat registers. Marnie devised the idea to layer a thick piece of vinyl fabric and hammer it into the back of each shelf and added an additional support with duck tape. Kudos! Enjoy the season. We appreciate your support

Anna Filoromo

RE-PAVING THE DRIVEWAYS AND PARKING LOT

Within the next few weeks, we will be re-paving the driveways and parking lots. It's no secret that we need to have it completely re-done before we lose a car in one of the pot holes. We intend to work around the scheduled activities as best as we can so we don't inconvenience anybody too much, but please keep your eyes open for some re-directions regarding entering and exiting. *We are able to do this project thanks to the generosity of the congregation's donations to the Anna McIlvaine Miller Fund and the St. James Pre-School.*

ALTAR GUILD FALL GATHERING - 2014 Saturday, October 25 at 10:00 AM in Bartholomew Hall

Share breakfast with your fellow Altar Guild Members. Following breakfast there will be a brief meeting to discuss new procedures, the up coming holidays, and other concerns of our group. We will also be offering training for new members and a refresher for current members.

RSVP to Judy at 610-269-4319 or 610-716-6605

Email – judycraig1572@verizon.net

“SMILE”

Did you take a family photo this summer? Email a copy (as an attachment) to the parish office so we can update church photo directory. Not able to email a photo? That's ok, we will be taking pictures on October 5 during coffee hour in Bartholomew Hall.

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY MINISTRIES FOR OCTOBER 2014

	Greeters	Ushers	Acolytes	Lectors	Chaliceists	Counters	Flowers	Altar Guild	Coffee Hour	Readings
Oct 5 7:45am	Shirley Tompkin	Lloyd Pettit	Ryan Feeley	Ryan Feeley Jack Edmonds	Don Vivian (P) Ryan Feeley	Nancy Cianfrani Don Vivian	Sandy Hodson	Jean Lee Guila Andrews Barbara Holden	Daughters of the King	Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46
9am	Volunteer Needed	Tony & Jeannie Carroll	Tom Hudecheck (CS)	Diane Pitalue	Rich Carango (P) Nancy Cianfrani					
11am	Ken & Peggy Leister	Rebecca Ward Volunteer	Michael Renzulli (CS) Timmy Gemmell (T) Jenn Gemmell (T)	Rebecca Ward Carl Grashof	Carl Grashof (P) Peggy Leister					
Oct 12 7:45am	George & Bev Hotton	Gene Sullivan	John Landis	Scott Settle Mary Anne Feeley	John Landis (P) Scott Settle	Terri Silvester Barb Monaghan	Lee Edmond		Volunteers Needed	Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6,19-23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14
9am	Hud & Kathy Voltz	Matt & Carol Ryan	Chris Voltz (CS) Zach Lindner (T) Zoey Lindner (T)	Matt Ryan	Tripp Tyner (P) Nancy Cianfrani					
11am	Judy Craig	Chris Lovell Bruce Smoyer	Essie Brink (CS) Esther Brink (T) David Brink (T)	Sandy Hodson Peggy Leister	Dick McConnell (P) Sandy Hodson					
Oct 19 7:45am	Gerry & Jean Frank	Jack Mea	Chet Whiting	Chet Whiting Gail Gilbert	Karen Samuelson (P) Chet Whiting	George Hotton Ed Miller	Leslie Smith		The Voltz Family	Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22
9am	Volunteer Needed	Bruce Shipley Steve Sharamatew	Tom Hudecheck (CS)	Bruce Shipley	Nancy Cianfrani (P) Rich Carango					
11am	Marita Grashof	Matt & Jenn Wagner	Michael Renzulli Timmy Gemmell (T) Jenn Gemmell (T)	Jenn Wagner Dick McConnell	Cathy Renzulli (P) Alison Pierce					
Oct 26 7:45am	Sis Lonsdale	Chet Whiting	Don Vivian	Don Vivian Florence Vivian	George Hotton (P) Don Vivian	Marilyn Miller Bev Hotton	Jean Frank		Men of Integrity	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6,13-17 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46
9am	Pete & Terri Silvester	Hud & Kathy Voltz	Chris Voltz (CS) Zach Lindner (T) Zoey Lindner (T)	Pete Silvester	Pete Silvester (P) Tripp Tyner					
11am	Peggy Bricknese	Ken & Peggy Leister	Essie Brink (CS) Esther Brink (T) David Brink (T)	Bruce Smoyer JoAnn Mattia	Sandy Hodson (P) Bill Mason					

If you are unable to serve please find someone to take your place. You can call Nancy Cianfrani if you need help finding a replacement. Her email is cnfrn@comcast.net or call her at 484-341-8051. The parish office does not keep track of changes/switches.

Calendar for October 2014

Calendar subject to changes/additions/corrections - Contact the parish office to schedule use of the building

Wednesday, October 1

7:00pm Rector's class and discussion group - Chapel

Thursday, October 2

7:00pm Choir rehearsal - BH

7:00pm Forever Endeavor rehearsal - Sanctuary

Friday, October 3

Preschool Outgrown sale - call 610-269-0525 for details

No AA or Al Anon Meeting

Saturday, October 4

Preschool Outgrown sale - call 610-269-0525 for details

9am - 1pm Thrift Shop open for sales and donations

3:00pm Heurich Renewal of Wedding Vows

6:30pm AA Meeting - BH

Sunday, October 5, The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Contemporary

Nursery care 9am to noon

10:00am Coffee hour and fellowship in Bartholomew Hall

10:00am Sunday School classes

11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Traditional

Monday, October 6

7:00pm AA Meeting (Open) - BH

Tuesday, October 7

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

8:00pm NA Meeting - BH

Wednesday, October 8

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

7:00pm Rector's class and discussion group - Chapel

Thursday, October 9

7:00pm Choir rehearsal - BH

7:00pm Forever Endeavor rehearsal - Sanctuary

Friday, October 10

8:00pm AA Meeting and Al Anon Meeting - BH

Saturday, October 11

6:30pm AA Meeting - BH

Sunday, October 12, The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Contemporary

Nursery care 9am to noon

10:00am Coffee hour and fellowship in Bartholomew Hall

10:00am Sunday School classes

11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Traditional

Monday, October 13, Columbus Day

Parish office closed and no Preschool classes

7:00pm AA Meeting (Open) - BH

Tuesday, October 14

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

8:00pm NA Meeting - BH

Wednesday, October 15

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

9:00am Volunteers to assemble Newsletter - BH

Noon Daughters of the King meeting - BH

7:00pm Rector's class and discussion group - Chapel

Thursday, October 16 - Preschool trip to Highland Orchards

7:00pm Choir rehearsal - BH

7:00pm Forever Endeavor rehearsal - Sanctuary

Friday, October 17 - Preschool trip to Highland Orchards

11:00 Book Club meets at Panera in Exton

8:00pm AA Meeting and Al Anon Meeting - BH

Saturday, October 18

9am - 1pm Thrift Shop open for sales and donations

6:30pm AA Meeting - BH

Sunday, October 19, The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Contemporary

Nursery care 9am to noon

10:00am Coffee hour and fellowship in Bartholomew Hall

10:00am Sunday School classes

11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Traditional

12:15pm Vestry Meeting - BH

Monday, October 20

7:00pm AA Meeting (Open) - BH

Tuesday, October 21

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

8:00pm NA Meeting - BH

Wednesday, October 22

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

Thursday, October 23 - Preschool Picture Days

7:00pm Choir rehearsal - BH

7:00pm Forever Endeavor rehearsal - Sanctuary

Friday, October 24 - Preschool Picture Days

8:00pm AA Meeting and Al Anon Meeting - BH

Saturday, October 25

10am Altar Guild Fall Gathering - BH

6:30pm AA Meeting - BH

Sunday, October 26, The 20th Sunday after Pentecost

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Contemporary

Nursery care 9am to noon

10:00am Coffee hour and fellowship in Bartholomew Hall

10:00am Sunday School classes

11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Traditional

Monday, October 27

7:00pm AA Meeting (Open) - BH

Tuesday, October 28

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

8:00pm NA Meeting - BH

Wednesday, October 29

9:00am - 11:30am Mommy & Me/Toddler Talk Class - BH

Thursday, October 30 - Preschool Halloween Parade

7:00pm Choir rehearsal - BH

7:00pm Forever Endeavor rehearsal - Sanctuary

Friday, October 31, All Hallows' Eve

Preschool Halloween Parade

8:00pm AA Meeting and Al Anon Meeting - BH

**SUPPORTING THE TROOPS
ONE BOX AND
ONE PRAYER AT A TIME**

**HONOR OUR
TROOPS OVERSEAS!**

**Sunday, October 5
will feature a special Coffee Hour in
honor of our troops serving overseas.**

Presented jointly by the Daughters of the King and the Troops Committee, the event right after the 9:00 AM service will focus on sending gifts and thoughts to our men and women overseas. Parishioners will be asked to:

1. Bring items the Troops Committee can wrap and send to our soldiers. There are lists showing what we can send and what is not acceptable for shipping on the shelf above the Troops tote. Generally, food snacks (including home-made cookies), magazines, writing materials and toiletries are fine; we cannot ship liquids, large bottles or anything breakable.
2. Parishioners will also be offered the chance to write notes to the soldiers to be sent with the goodies during the Coffee Hour.
3. In a special effort, we hope that any children attending will write notes to the troops; these have a tremendous impact on our soldiers.

In the meantime, don't forget to donate things to send overseas. The tote was quite full all spring and into summer, but donations have slowed recently.

FOOD ITEMS:

Beef Jerky/Slim Jims
Cereal (single serving boxes)
Chips/Pretzels
(single serve plastic container/individual snack packs)
Coffee & Tea
Cookies
Easy Mac (single serve)
Peanut Butter (single serve)
Energy Bars/Granola Bars
Hard Candy/Gum
Powdered Drink Mix
(Gatorade, Crystal Light, Kool Aid)
Sunflower Seeds, Pumpkins Seeds, Trail Mix
Dried Fruit/Fruit Snacks

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS:

Baby Powder
Body Wash/Liquid Soap (small bottles)
Dental Floss
Deodorant (NO AEROSOL CANS)
Eye Drops
Foot Powder
Fly Ribbon/Tape (NO AEROSOL CANS)
Insect Repellent
(pump bottle or towelettes - NO AEROSOL CANS)
Lip Balm/Chap Stick
Moist Towelettes (individual packets)
Mouthwash (alcohol free/small bottles)
Shampoo/Conditioner (small bottles)
Sun Block (SPF 40+ NO AEROSOL CANS)
Tissues (Individual packs)
Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
Razors/shaving cream (NO AEROSOL CANS)
Feminine Hygiene Items
Mary Kay/Avon Items
Small bottles of unscented non-greasy lotion

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Books (paperback)
Comic Books, Magazines
Envelopes/Pens/Pencils/Writing Paper/Note Cards
Game Books
(Crossword Puzzles, Math Puzzles,
Sudoku, Word Search)
Games (Chess, Checkers, UNO, Playing Cards, etc)

**NO FLAMABLE SUBSTANCE
OR AEROSOL ITEMS**

October Birthdays

Carol Ryan	October 1
Chris Voltz	October 1
Kathy Fredericksen	October 2
David Bernard	October 3
James Halpin II	October 3
Finn Hudecheck	October 4
John Landis	October 5
Zach Voltz	October 6
Jeanne Davis	October 7
Jack Edmonds	October 8
Joe Voltz	October 8
Matt Kerr	October 9
Breese McIlvaine	October 9
Cathy Renzulli	October 9
Essie Brink	October 10
Julie Butler	October 14
Rick Easterling	October 14
Nathaniel Healy	October 14
Mark MacDonald	October 15
Cathy Tsakeris	October 18
Cameron Wallace	October 18
Marge Hess	October 19
Russ Robinson	October 19
Hannah Craig	October 20
Cathy Weisser	October 20
Logan Mea	October 21
Mitchell Ingram	October 22
Becky Leister	October 22
Ryan Vasko	October 23
Christine Deitcher	October 24
Chris Lovell	October 24
Henry Benson	October 25
Bobbie Roberts	October 25
Nicholas Johnson Jr.	October 26
Nick Johnson	October 28
Herb Anderson	October 29
Ryan Barger	October 31

October Altar Flowers are offered in loving memory of

October 5

Mary & Lee Heston
Earl F. Petrie

October 12

Hugh P. Feeley
Bob and Dianne Wagner

October 19

Marcia Chambers Wells

October 26

Bill McIlvaine
Elizabeth Downing Smith

Altar Flowers can be given in memory of or in thanksgiving of a loved one.

Please fill in the date you would like in the Altar Guild Flower Book located on the table by the main entrance. Envelopes for payment are next to the book.

HOSPITALIZATION REMINDER



It is important to notify the Rector or the parish administrator (610-269-1774) when you or a family member is in the hospital. Due to privacy laws, hospitals are no longer able to give the church that information. **Please let us know when you are in the hospital.** Private messages may be left for the rector at 610-873-1065. After hours pastoral emergencies: 610-306-7059.

Do you need help with meals? Our Ministry of Meals can help. Contact the Rector, parish administrator, or Mandy Watson at 610-518-0399.

Support Group Meetings In Bartholomew Hall

Monday	7:00pm	Monday Message Open AA
Tuesday:	8:00pm	NA
1 st Tuesday of month	8:00pm	District AA
Friday:	8:00pm	AA and AI Anon
Saturday:	6:30pm	AA

HUDSON L. VOLTZ, ESQUIRE JOY L. VALANIA, ESQUIRE
JANET J. SATTERTHWAITTE, ESQUIRE HEIDI T. NOVINO, PARALEGAL

HUDSON L. VOLTZ, P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Small Business ~ Family Law ~ Estate Planning & Probate ~ Real Estate Law
THE LAIRD PROFESSIONAL BUILDING 610-518-9500
110 HOPEWELL ROAD, SUITE 200 Fax 610-518-5316
DOWNTOWN, PA 19335-1047 E-mail: voltzlaw@comcast.net

Mr. Voltz is a member; serving the St. James' Community for Real Estate, Family, Business and Estate matters for the past 20 years



STEWARDSHIP IN THE INTERIM

One of the things that can really fall through the cracks during the interim period between the departure of one rector and the arrival of another is stewardship. We hope, with your help, not to have that happen at St. James. There are many things that make a congregation attractive to good priests, and one of those is a community whose members take seriously and respond generously to their calling to be faithful givers in support of the life and ministries of the parish.

But even more important than that is a continued emphasis for each of us as individuals on the stewardship of our resources as a means of growing in our relationship with God.

For this reason, we want you to be aware of our plans for the coming weeks.

- Because the stewardship is about how we use our resources, money being one of them, we will be focusing on that in particular. That does not mean that our gifts of time and energy are not important, only that we will be focusing on money at this time.
- Because stewardship is, at heart, about conversion, about turning to God in trust and love in ever deeper ways, you will be hearing from some of your fellow parishioners about that part of their story of growing in love and faithfulness to God.
- Because stewardship has been at the heart of the life and ministry of the Interim Rector for over forty-five years, she yearns to help you think and talk and pray about how you decide what you will return to God for his use in and through St. James' Church.

We will begin the process with the first of two mailings (in early October) to help you reflect on what you do now and what you might do for the coming year. We will conclude on All Saints Sunday, November 2nd when you will be invited to present your gift at the altar during the worship service you normally attend.

Please feel free to ask questions and make comments to Robin about what we are doing and why we are doing it.

Sunday Service Schedule

7:45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Contemporary Music

Nursery care during the 9am and 11am service

10:00am Fellowship and Coffee Hour in Bartholomew Hall

10:00am Christian Education Classes

11:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Traditional Music

Rector

The Rev. Robin Martin, Interim Rector
sjrector@verizon.net

Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper

Luann McIlvaine
sjcparishoffice@verizon.net

Christian Education Coordinator

Beth Sharamatew
sjcsundayschool2@verizon.net

Parish Office ~ 610-269-1774

Monday : 10am - 3pm
Tuesday – Thursday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, Closed Friday

Thrift Shop ~ 610-873-7812

Monday - Thursday: 10:00am – 3:00pm
1st & 3rd Saturdays each month: 9am - 1pm

St. James Preschool ~ 610-269-0525

www.stjamespreschool.com

Vestry Members - Term 2015

Judy Benne Home: 610-286-6141
Rich Carango Home: 610-518-0399
Nancy Cianfrani Home: 484-341-8051
Brooke Giffi Home: 610-594-2712

Vestry Members - Term 2016

Bob Yuninger Home: 610-380-7941
Tim Gemmill Home: 610-431-7174
Bruce Shipley Home: 215-368-0542
Matt Wagner Home: 610-873-2419

Vestry Members - Term 2017

Laura Harting Home: 610-363-5258
Peggy Leister Home: 610-696-5271
Dick McConnell Home: 610-524-2447
Ron Meacham Home: 610-269-9352

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

Deadline for the November issue of the Steeple Notes is due October 10th.
Please submit articles, announcements, and calendar events to the parish office
via email sjcparishoffice@verizon.net