



St. James' Episcopal Church Indian Head, Maryland



July – September 2015



Message from your Senior Warden

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)

A time of transition in a church can be filled with anxiety, and questions. Where do we go from here? When will we find a new rector? Will we have pastoral care while we are waiting? Will we be able to continue our worship schedule? The list of questions can be daunting. We are well into our beginning stage of transition. Our old rector, Denise, has been gone almost three months. In that time, we have had an emergency baptism, one funeral, and two monthly services at Genesis Nursing Home, Children's Sunday worship, our Sunday school Award Ceremony, our annual parish picnic, and pastoral Eucharistic visits. In conjunction, we have had our community spaghetti dinner, brunch fundraiser, Laundry Love, ECW meetings, vestry meetings, finance meetings and worship scheduling. The Altar Guild has done their weekly task of preparing for communion and worship, bulletin inserts have been typed and printed, music has been selected, and we have changed seasons in the church. Our lay readers, acolytes, chalice bearers and ushers have participated in our worship along with our choir and organist. Coffee hour has continued after both services and the congregation has attended worship and contributed to St. James' in their offering. Parishioners have visited our congregants who are unable to attend church to extend love, concern and news of our parish. A few of our parishioners have endured the loss of a family member, and felt the love of God through the outpouring of concern, visits and prayers from St. James. We are a blessed, devoted church family who continue to unite and proclaim our belief in Jesus Christ. As your senior warden, you help to lessen my responsibility and make me proud. This time of transition is necessary to bridge the gap between our past into the vision that we wish to live in our future in the community, and ultimately the world. I am pleased to tell you that every person who has supplied for us, as well as the several people from the diocese, has told me repeatedly that we are a healthy congregation. Let me repeat that we are a healthy congregation!!! Apparently, this is not always the case, and it means a lot of work must be done before a church can begin the process of calling a rector. Please be assured that things are happening in our transition. A team has been formed and met with the Diocesan Finance Committee (DFC) for our required audit. This is an audit to help us discern how much we can afford to pay a new rector, as well as to look at the demographics of our congregation. We were told by the DFC that our financial records were some of the most comprehensive and concise that the chairperson had seen in his 12 years of doing this type of analysis. It reassured the team of the quality and reliability of our financial situation. Thank you to our finance committee for their exemplary work. The vestry has met to formulate their questions for the four excellent candidates we will interview for our interim priest. These interviews will take place during the month of August, and it is my hope that in the early fall we will have our interim in place. Once the interim has become familiar with our church, the process of evaluating and reconciling our past and looking to our future will begin. Once we have discerned our vision, the vestry will select the search committee and they will be given their charge of how many candidates we would like to be presented for our rector. The candidates are listed in alphabetical order and it is ultimately the vestry who selects the next rector. The search committee will write a parish profile and an online profile that will be posted on the Episcopal churches website. The process between rectors is approximately 18 months. The interim rector is not eligible to ultimately become our priest. The interim rector is specifically skilled in assisting churches in transition. During this time of transition, we will grow in our faith, vision and discernment. Please be patient during this time and realize that it is a necessary process for us to go through so that we may select the rector that will ultimately help us fulfill our vision and commission in the world.

We are a congregation who believe in “loving the Lord, God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and our neighbors as ourselves.” Matthew 22:37-40

Faithfully, Linda



Message from the Jr Warden

Tilling the Earth



It has been, and will be quite a year.

As for me, I'm still reeling from Rev. Denise's departure, and I wonder how many of us feel this way.

My love and appreciation for her manner of inspiring and motivating action is something I came to depend on and expect, and even look forward to. Rev. Denise was responsible for a lot of the momentum behind quite a few projects and ministries. I realized some time ago that though I was motivated and inspired, I had to be careful not to take on too much. At the beginning of this year, as a matter of fact, one of my resolutions was to not take on any additional responsibilities, or make anymore commitments. As it turns out, I may as well have stuck to the more traditional resolutions concerning diet and exercise for all the success I had in making those resolutions last.

Reverend Denise is gone. For a time I just could not seem to get past that thought. But I am moving forward, beyond that truth, even as I revisit it. We all are, even as we move into the next great season of our continuing life as a parish.

Over the next year or so we, as a parish, will go through a period of preparation for that next season. I have no doubt it will be a bountiful one. The soil here is good, and we already have a lot of great things happening. This period will include mourning and sharing, reflecting and forgiveness, all while maintaining an intimate relationship with God through prayer; each of us at our own pace.

Our vestry has already begun the pre-determined process of choosing an interim minister who will, among other things, help us, to rediscover ourselves; our talents and our gifts. This coming interim period will be when we open our hearts and minds through prayer and so till our existing grove of ministries, and prepare ourselves and this parish for new ways to share our blessings in the name of Christ.

Yours in the Faith and Love of Christ,

Thomas Gordon; Junior Warden

Haiti News

Hello everyone,

I just want to keep you updated as to what is happening with our Haiti project.

We have several up-coming fundraising events. Please find it in your heart to help by participating in one or several of these events. All money collected goes directly to St. Matthieu's School (no middle man).

Now – Buy Discount Cards from any member of the Haiti Mission Project (Dominos, Subway, Burger King, McDonald, Bowling, Popeye's)

August 15 (7AM-3PM) - Bake Sale at the Indoor Yard Sale

26 (5-8 PM) – Roy Rogers

September 23 (5-8 PM) – Roy Rogers

October 10 – Wine Tasting and Silent Auction

21 (5-8 PM) Roy Rogers

50/50 raffles will be held at all spaghetti dinners, Ham and Crab Cake dinner, and the fall bazaar. A drawing will be held at the end of each event.

Peace,
Thomas Gordon



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



The 2015/2016 Sunday School season will start on September 13. Sunday School starts around 9:45 a.m. and lasts for 30 minutes. Our new Christian Education Coordinator is Brenda Peterson. This season the classes will be set up as follows:

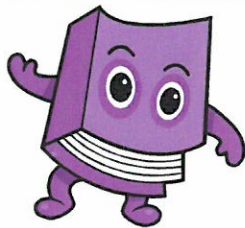
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Grade K –Grade 3	Nancy Ahern
Grade 4 – Grade 5	Diane Ryan
Grade 6 – Grade 8	Bertha Gordon
Grade 9 – Grade 12	Linda Mohler/Jack Rogers

PLEASE HAVE YOUR KIDS JOIN US FOR THE 2015/2016 SUNDAY SCHOOL SEASON



Choir Rehearsal resumes on Thursday, Sept. 10 at 6:30PM

If someone has a song request, please write it down and give it to Julie. We will be sure to call you and let you know when your request is being played! We are also looking for anyone who would like to solo during a Summer service.



Our FACEBOOK Page

Have you looked at our Facebook page? One of the easiest ways to get there is to use the link on the Church's web site.

We are asking all of our parishioners who are on Facebook to please "like" our page. Also, if you would invite your local friends to "like" our page, it will help us to promote St. James'.

Further, we are asking you to please share on your page any of our posts when we are advertising an event at the church.



Ever wondered how those delicious St James' carrots are made that are served at most of the dinners? What are the ingredients and how is it all put together? Well here's your chance to find out! There will be a carrot making party on Wednesday, September 9, starting at 10 am. Just meet in the kitchen - EEOC



Parish Hall Rental

One of the ways we can raise money for our operating budget without too much work or expense is to rent our Parish Hall. So tell all your friends about what a lovely hall we have available for any occasion!

The rates are as follows:

Parishioners of St. James'

Asked to make a donation of \$100.00

Non-parishioners

\$350.00/first 4 hours - Limited use of the kitchen

\$50.00 each additional hour

\$400.00/first 4 hours - Full use of the kitchen

\$50.00 each additional hour

A signed contract is included for the use of the hall.

If you know of anyone that needs to use a hall for a wedding reception, dinner, birthday party, etc., or if you have any questions please have them contact **Karen Burroughs**.



St James' Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

All St. James' women are a member of the ECW and we would love to have you attend the meetings and take part in our activities. We meet the second Sunday of each month (September – June), alternating between 9:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. If you have any questions about the ECW, please see one of our officers.

Sheila Gray – President
Clare Phillips – Vice President
Karen Burroughs – Secretary
Adah Morgan – Treasurer

Please Join us for the **Upcoming ECW Calendar Events**

Saturday, August 15 - Annual Indoor Yard Sale

Saturday, September 26 – Fashion Show

Saturday, November 7 - The Annual Fall Bazaar

Sale of Raffle Tickets for a 55" Flat Screen TV will begin on August 15. The tickets are \$5 for 1, \$10 for 5, and \$20 for 15. The winner will be drawn and announced at the Fashion Show, September 26. Please see any ECW Member for tickets.

In Christ's love and peace,
Sheila Gray, ECW President

Free Community Spaghetti Dinner



We have had 3 dinners so far this year and raised \$619 in free will offerings. Because of the generosity of members of our community, we were able to donate \$500 to help one of our families with medical expenses incurred by a major out-of-town pediatric surgery.

The next community dinner will be held on **Monday, July 27**. We need **spaghetti sauce** and **parmesan cheese** and some help as it looks like Tom & Brenda might not make it back in time from Vermont.

Dear Friends: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4.11



FELLOWSHIP

I don't know about you, but I seem to be busier than ever this summer and we haven't even had any fun events at the church. Let's get together and do something. How about suggestions from the congregation? What would you like to do and when would you like to do it? I'm all ears. I hear a game day coming up!

Love in Christ,

Adah

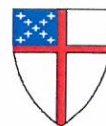
Supply Priests for the month of July



July 12 - Rev Marian Humphrey

July 19 - Morning Prayer

July 26 - Rev Olivia Hilton





There will only be one service at 9:00 am on Sunday,
September 13.



Ham and Crab Cake Dinner



Sunday, September 13, 2015

3:00-6:00 P.M.

Adults - \$25.00 includes dinner (2 crab cakes, drink, and dessert)

Children (6-12) - \$12.00 includes (1 crab cake, drink, and dessert)

Children 5 & under - FREE



Interested in remembering that special someone with flowers on the altar?
Unfortunately, there are no more available slots this year. But you could contact
Diane Ryan if you want to get on the list for 2016.



On Beads of Prayer Ministry

Beads of Prayer will start again in September. We meet twice a month on the second Friday and fourth Saturday of each month. **All are welcome, including the children.** We will train any newcomers and help everyone who needs it. Our next meetings are Friday, Sep 11; Saturday, Sep 26; Friday, Oct 9; and Saturday, Oct 24. Please join us! It is lots of fun!!

Hope to see you there.

Have a GREAT day!
Martha



NETS (Neighbors Eager To Serve)

NETS will be doing book bags again this year. St James' has been asked to do 12 book bags for second grade. I will have the list on Sunday. There are 6 boys and 6 girls. On behalf of NETS, I would like to thank you for your generosity in this endeavor.

Soon, it will be time again to fill the holiday baskets and NETS would like to thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

Thanks, Barbara Prasser (B2).

Linda's vacation schedule



Linda will be away July 21 – July 31.



For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord...to give you a future with hope.----Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

I read from a spiritual devotional every night and the following is a story that I wanted to share with you.

In North America, the majority of churches don't have as many members as they did ten, twenty, or fifty years ago. Some experts say there's no hope for the church.

My friend Bill is not one of them. Pastor of one of those small-and-getting-smaller churches in the Midwest, they never seem discouraged about that reality. So one day I asked him, "How do you stay so positive when your membership keeps shrinking? Aren't you afraid you'll close?"

Bill smiled. "I don't know what you're talking about. We're not shrinking. We're growing----up ten percent from last year."

"Can't be," I said. "I've seen your membership numbers. Down every year for the last ten."

"You count numbers," Bill said, "but we count touches. Anytime anyone in our church does something for someone else in the name of Jesus, that's a touch: a card sent, a phone call made, a meal delivered, a donation to the food pantry. And our goal is to increase touches. In the five years that we've counted this way, we've grown every year."

Bill's wisdom has changed the way I live my life. My initial goal was one touch a day; too small. Now it's five. And here's what I've discovered when my touches grow in number, I grow in faith.

Show me, God where I can bring Your hope and love to someone else today.

---Jeff Japinga

As I read the story I immediately thought of St. James' and how much love and caring we have for each other, our community, and people we don't even know. LET'S KEEP TOUCHING AND GROWING.

Yours in Christ,
Adah



So often during the summer our overall financial picture has us running in the **red**. Last year we were roughly \$11,000 in the hole. But this year we are only \$4,880.19 in the hole! Yeah!! Everyone seems to be keeping up with their pledge and the price of oil combined with a warmish winter helped. Keep up the good work! I also don't think I told you that our Memorial Day Brunch brought in \$778 (profit). Thanks to those that donated a little extra to make this a successful event.

Parishioner News:

Diane Parise is at home with the help of her family. Although she is not up to visitation or phone calls, she would greatly appreciate knowing that her friends at St. James' are thinking of her. You can mail her a card at the following address: 2142 Boxwood Circle, Bryans Road, Maryland 20616.

Dorene Knapp has moved from Genesis to Heritage Hall to be closer to her daughter. She would welcome a visit and/or card. Her address is 10051 Foxes Way B29, King George, VA 22485.

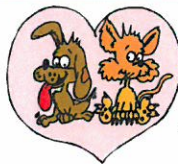
Sadly we lost our dear friend **George Hanssen**. A private family service was held. All well wishes can be sent to Ruth Hanssen at Apt 165, 10450 Lottsford Rd, Mitchellville MD, 20721-3303 .



Congratulations to **Jessica Davis** who graduated from University of Maryland in June with a degree in Marketing.

Congratulations to the following High School Graduates!

Holly Coelho, AJ Fusina, LeRoy Granston (Ruth Cole's nephew), **Cassie Hensley, Patrick King** (Elsa Ault's son), **Olivia Litten, Nate Rogers, Samuel Wright** (Jamie Wright's son).



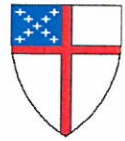
Blessing of the Animals And Holy Eucharist

When: 9:00AM on October 4th

Where: Outside at the St. Francis Statue



168th Annual Festival **Christ Church, Durham Parish**



ALL YOU CAN EAT DINNER includes:

Fried Chicken

Sliced Ham

Durham's Famous Fried Fish

Great Side Dishes:

Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Squash, Green Beans, Beets, Baked Beans, Sliced Tomatoes, and Corn on the Cob

FANCY TABLE AND BAKE SALE

When: August 8, 2014

Time: 12 PM – 5 PM

Where: Christ Church, Durham,
8700 Ironside Road,
Nanjemoy, MD

Cost: Adults and Carry Outs - \$23
Children 6-12 years - \$9
Under 5 years – Free

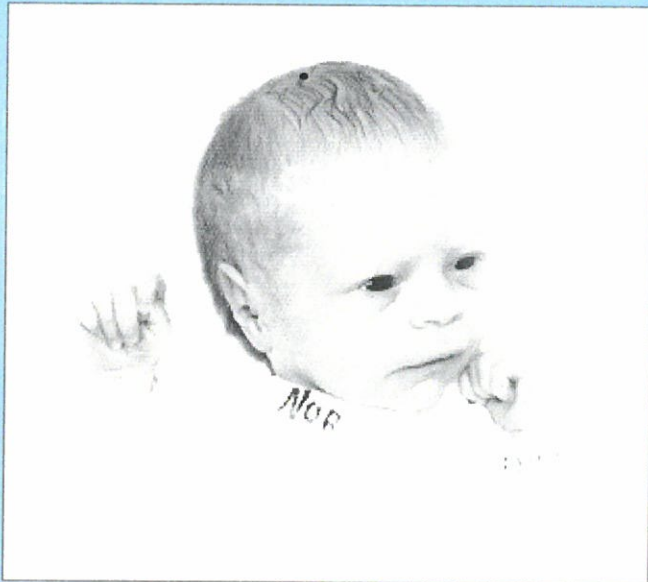
Website: www.christchurcholddurhamparish.com



Thank You!

A warm thank you goes to the musicians, Bill Eckman, Bill Foreman, Hank Brodersen, and our very own Cassie Hensley for the music during the Memorial Day service on July 5.

GUESS WHO THIS ST. JAMES' PARISHIONER IS!





I was born and raised in Northern Virginia. I was the second of six children. I attended many Washington Senator and Redskin games as a youth and teenager because my dad had season tickets. My family moved to Southern Maryland when I was a sophomore in high school. I attended St. James' periodically as a teenager and again in the 80's. I became a member in the early 1990's. I earned my way through college as an art model. I was a licensed real estate agent for 30 years.

(The answer to the last challenge is Tommy Gray)

Our mission statement:

We generously share our blessings in the name of Christ with the hope of showing God's love to others.

AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 8:00 AM Services are at 8, 9:15 (Family), and 10:30 (with Choir)</p>	<p>27 5:00 PM Community Spaghetti Dinner</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>30 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>2 8:00 AM Services are at 8, 9:15 (Family), and 10:30 (with Choir)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4  6:00 PM Interview Candidates for Transitional Priest</p>	<p>5 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>6 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8  12:00 PM - 168th Annual Festival at Old Durham</p>
<p>9 8:00 AM Services are at 8, 9:15 (Family), and 10:30 (with Choir)</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>13 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15  7:00 AM ECW Indoor Yard Sale and Halli Bake Sale</p>
<p>16 </p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 7:00 PM Finance Committee 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>20 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>8:00 AM Services are at 8, 9:15 (Family), and 10:30 (with Choir) 2:00 PM Interview Candidate for Transitional Priest</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25  6:30 PM Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>26  5:00 PM Halli Fund Raiser at Roy Rogers La Plata 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>27 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>23 8:00 AM Services are at 8, 9:15 (Family), and 10:30 (with Choir)</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>3 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
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