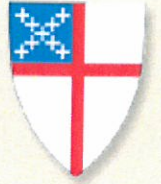




St. James' Episcopal Church *Indian Head, Maryland*



March 2014



Rector's Ramblings

The season of Lent is upon us once again and I hope that it will be a holy and fruitful season for each of you. Just like 'staying in Advent' during the holiday season is difficult, 'staying in Lent' can be a challenge as well. I think this is especially true in a year like this when Winter has been long and cold and the promise of Spring is out there. Once the snow melts and we have several warm days and buds start popping out and flowers start poking up; 'staying in Lent' is a little difficult with all this new birth happening around us. But I encourage you to try to stay in the spiritual place of Lent in spite of all that is happening around you.

Lent is an ancient tradition in the church. It is a time of thoughtful reflection on our life in Christ. It is a time for us to think about how we live our lives: are we as faithful as we should be/could be? Are we as giving, loving, forgiving as we could be? Do we have things in our lives that get in the way of our being more faithful, more attentive to our relationship with God? Do we do what we can to help those who are oppressed, treated unjustly, who are forgotten, voiceless, or poor? These are the type of questions we should be wrestling with during these 40 days of Lent. Who are we as Christians and how do we want to live into this? This is what Jesus struggled with in the desert – who was he as the Son of God and what did that mean for how he was to live his life.

So I encourage you to sit with these questions over your Lenten journey. Find time in your busy life to explore what they mean to you and your relationship with God. Enjoy the beauty of the earth coming to life again, but let your spiritual life stay in the desert of Lent.

Peace,










Denise+

Lenten Services:



Tuesday evenings at 7:00 there is Evening Prayer
 Wednesdays there is a Noon Eucharist Service

Holy Week and Easter – All evening Services begin at 7:00

Tuesday	7:00	Evening Prayer 
Wednesday	7:00	Tenebrae 
Thursday	7:00	Agape meal and Eucharist 
Friday	12 Noon	Stations of the Cross 
	7:00	Good Friday Service 
Saturday	7:00	Easter Vigil 
Sunday	8:00	Easter Service 
	9:00	Family Service starting at 9:00 (Easter Egg Hunt) 
	10:30	Easter Service 

If you have never been to the Easter Vigil Service, please consider joining us this year. We will have a joint service with Old Durham here at St. James'. It is a wonderful service to end our long Lenten journey with as we hear God's salvation story for us all and end with the joy of the resurrection.

There is also an Easter Sunrise Service at Mount Aventine for the early birds!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Please make a note of the upcoming Sunday School events.

March 29	Bowling
April 13	Children will Read the Passion at the 9:15 a.m. Palm Sunday Service
April 20	Easter Service Followed by the Annual Easter Egg Hunt
May 18	Sundae Making Sunday After the 9:15 a.m. Service (bring a friend)
June 1	Sunday School Awards Day After the 10:30 a.m. Service (at Coffee Hour)

It is never too late for your children to join these activities. So, if you want to bring them to an event, or if they wish to attend the weekly classes, they are welcome. Sunday School classes start around 9:45 a.m., immediately following the 9:15 a.m. children's service.

Sheila Gray



You are cordially invited to our next Spring Tea

"The Beauty of Spring"

May 10, 2014

The Pavilion
Indian Head

12:00 to 2:30 pm

Tickets \$17.00 per person/Children 12-under \$8.50
Hope you are planning to attend and support St. James'!

Bring your beautiful tea cups, teapots, and spring hats!

Free Community Spaghetti Dinner



Donations of \$202 were received at the free community spaghetti dinner held on January 27th. This money does not yet have a place to go.

The next spaghetti dinner will be held on **Monday, March 31st**. We are always in need of something so check your bulletin. And don't forget - desserts are needed too. Sign-up sheet to help is on the bulletin board.

St. James' Tea Committee

We are very fortunate to have a group of women that are willing to do what it takes for a tea to be a successful event. We have a committee of ten outstanding individuals.

I wrote a committee report for the annual meeting and listed the members. It was printed in the "*Year in Review*" booklet and I accidentally left off a committee member's name.

So, I would like to apologize to **Nancy Hurlburt**. I've told her she is a life-long member. Please don't think about retiring from this group.

Thanks Nancy for all that you do with the tea committee and for St. James' Church.

We love you,
Karen

Let's Welcome Spring

Join us at St. James' for a *Spring Fashion Show & Luncheon*
"A Change of Seasons"

Saturday, April 5, 2014

Time 1:00pm

Tickets \$10.00 per person/Children 12-under \$5.00





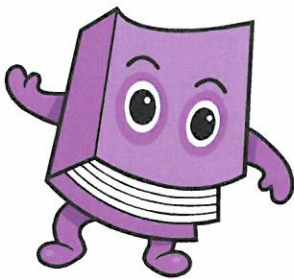
On Beads of Prayer

The On Beads of Prayer ministry continues to meet and prepare beads for the military. We meet on the 2nd Friday and 4th Saturday of the month at 10:00. The upcoming date in March is Saturday the 22nd. In April, we will meet Friday the 11th and Saturday the 26th. In May we will meet Friday the 9th & Saturday the 24th. We will be stringing prayer beads for the military, and also packing some for shipment to the Chaplain at Fort Drum in New York, so you don't have to string beads to participate in this ministry.

We welcome young and old experienced and newcomers. We have instruction sheets and diagrams as well as one on one help. You can choose color combinations and have fellowship while joining in a helpful work for those who are serving our country.

Hope you can join us.

Martha



Our **FACEBOOK** Page

Did you know we have a 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. Our page will begin to include more pictures and events to help keep you informed and create a social media buzz.



Parish Hall Rental

We are trying to promote the rental of the parish hall as it is a great source of church income. 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)

Attention all church ladies. Please join us once per month for our ECW committee meeting. The committee meets every second Sunday, alternating each month between a 9:00 a.m. and a noon meeting time. We'd love to have you as we plan our events. (Fashion show, Corned beef dinner, yard sale, fall bazaar – just to name a few).

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

Message from your Junior Warden

Thank you for entrusting me with the Junior Wardens position. The retreat was an inspiring success and a great beginning to this new season. (I can only hope the warmer weather feels welcome enough to stay around for more than a couple of days.) Please feel welcome to contact me, or any of us, for any reason.

I want to know what you think and how you feel about St James' and its community.

Yours in Christ,
Thomas Gordon

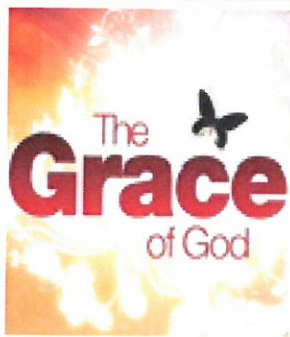
Dear Friends: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4.11



FELLOWSHIP

Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements of future events. As always, if you have any suggestions, please contact either Brenda or myself.

Love in Christ, Adah



GRACE

“When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.”

Romans 12:13 (NLT)

GRACE is a pastoral care team comprised thus far of Adah Morgan, Brenda Peterson and Linda Mohler. We have been trained as Eucharistic Visitors who are authorized to take the Consecrated Elements to people who are unable to attend church. Our visits are to supplement and not replace Reverend Denise’s visits.

As part of our ministry, we have taken meals in conjunction with the ECW to homebound parishioners. We mail cards to parishioners as well as people outside of our congregation. We pray for people on our long term prayer list and any concerns brought to our attention. Recently, as part of GRACE, members from our team stayed with Jackie Williams while she was in the hospital. Although, this is outside the scope of GRACE, Jackie Williams has been blessed to recuperate at Adah Morgan’s home.

We welcome and are seeking new members to join this important ministry in our church. If you have any questions, prayer requests, concerns, or would like to join our ministry, please see Linda Mohler, Adah Morgan or Brenda Peterson.



Message from your Senior Warden

As I write this, the crocuses are blooming in my yard. They are the first signs of the promise of spring. We have survived an especially cold, snowy winter and spring is only a few weeks away. The flowers bloom and the seasons change in God's perfect timing.

The same God who controls the seasons directs our steps each day. The book of Ecclesiastes reminds us that *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens"* (3:1 NIV). Committing our lives to Christ means surrendering our own plans for His perfect timing.

Living out God's purpose for our lives can often make us impatient. Psalm 27:14 reminds us to *"Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage"* (ESV). Whatever unanswered prayer you are waiting on, trust that God's timing is perfect and He is faithful.

Yours in Christ - Linda



Meaningful Mission Experience (MME):



Those of us who participated in the MME last year were so moved by the experience that we decided to continue the program again this year. If you are unsure about this program and want to know more, please see Brenda or Adah. This program is funded from some of the surplus funds from 2013 and the rest from our 2014 Mission budget. The intent of this program is to become engaged with the giving, not the detachment of merely writing a check. You know, make it like 'Meaningful'!

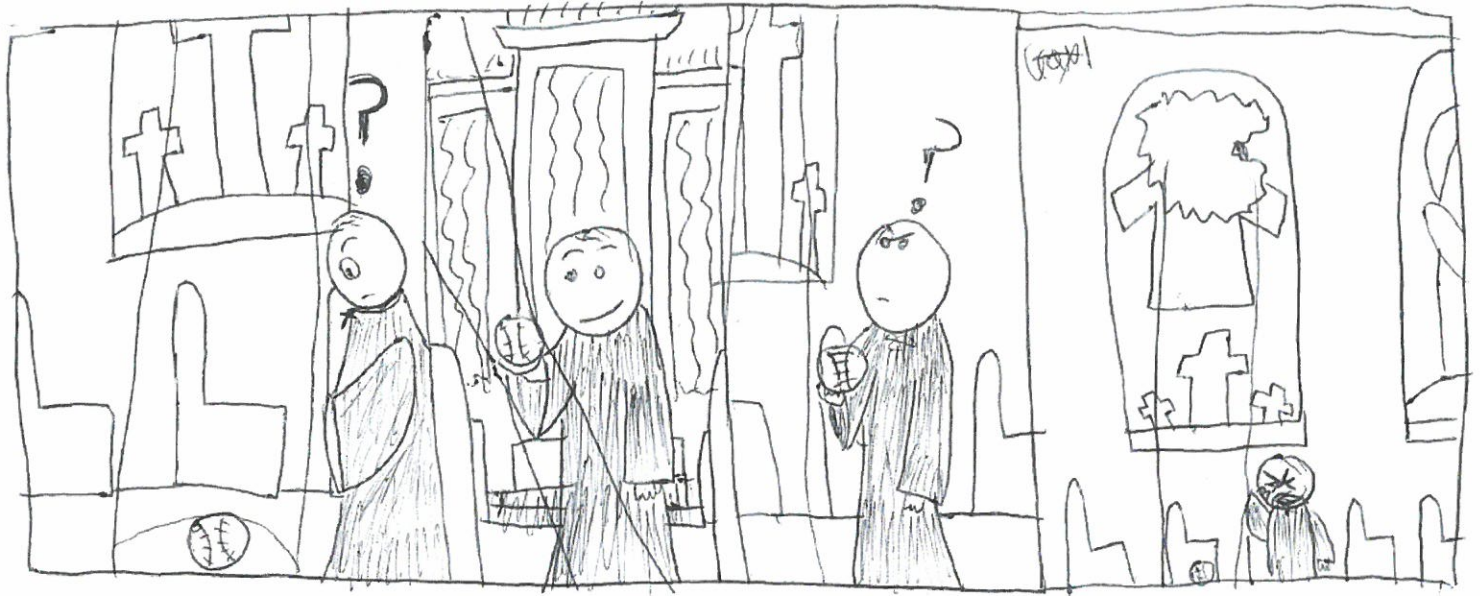
Financial Report

It was suggested that we start publishing the financial report in the newsletter. There are many financial activities that we track and monitor closely from month to month. However, I am basically showing you the condensed version so as not to span several pages here. If you would like to see more detail, feel free to contact me and I'll fill you in. Please do not be alarmed by the 'bottom line' as we seem to experience a similar behavior each year. We have already spent close to \$6,400 in oil just for the Church and I'm about to write another check for \$3,500! That's right – brrrr!! We've also had some quarterly expenses come in. These are Denise's pension, the WSTs and the Property Insurance. The Finance Committee will be meeting next month to go over our first quarter financial report with a fine-tooth comb.

3:50 PM
03/14/14
Cash Basis

St James' Episcopal Church Budget vs. Actual January through February 2014

			TOTAL		2014 Budget
	Jan 14	Feb 14	Jan - Feb 14	Budget	
Income					
Total Contributions Income	10,256.00	11,634.00	21,890.00	25,834.00	155,000.00
Total Other Income	45.00	0.00	45.00	1,749.98	10,500.00
Total Income	10,301.00	11,634.00	21,935.00	27,583.98	165,500.00
Expense					
General					
Total Education/Training/Enrichment	0.00	200.00	200.00	599.98	2,600.00
Total General Financial	1,405.00	1,405.00	2,810.00	3,007.00	18,042.00
Total General Mission	102.81	25.00	127.81	666.64	4,000.00
Total General Worship	700.00	700.00	1,400.00	1,883.40	11,300.00
Total Other Expenses	13.00	130.47	143.47	550.10	3,300.00
Total General	2,220.81	2,460.47	4,681.28	6,707.12	39,242.00
Operations					
Total Building Maintenance/Insurance	688.31	1,425.07	2,113.38	2,183.32	10,825.00
Total Office Expenses	257.60	776.61	1,034.21	803.40	4,820.00
Utilities					
Electric - Church	459.19	443.64	902.83	700.00	4,200.00
Electric - Rectory	165.37	140.16	305.53	266.70	1,600.00
Fuel Oil - Church	2,800.42	3,560.42	6,360.84	2,166.70	13,000.00
Fuel Oil - Rectory	603.91	895.38	1,499.29	266.70	1,600.00
Telephone/Internet - Church	123.87	110.46	234.33	225.00	1,350.00
Telephone/Internet - Rectory	79.68	79.78	159.46	150.00	900.00
WST - Church	290.00	0.00	290.00	166.70	1,000.00
WST - Rectory	233.90	0.00	233.90	166.70	1,000.00
Total Utilities	4,756.34	5,229.84	9,986.18	4,108.50	24,650.00
Total Operations	5,702.25	7,431.52	13,133.77	7,095.22	40,295.00
Personnel					
Total Clergy Compensation	8,815.09	5,028.55	13,843.64	13,627.30	81,763.00
Total Clergy Related Expenses	500.00	24.70	524.70	1,116.80	4,200.00
Total Personnel	9,315.09	5,053.25	14,368.34	14,744.10	85,963.00
Total Expense	17,238.15	14,945.24	32,183.39	28,546.44	165,500.00
Net Income	-6,937.15	-3,311.24	-10,248.39		0.00



GUESS WHO THIS ST JAMES' PARISHIONER IS!



I was born in the State of Maryland, but have ancestral background in Virginia and Pennsylvania. My late great uncle has a school in Virginia named after him. I toured it with my family. Oh, I can't say his name. I go to St. James' Episcopal Church and have been an Episcopalian all my life.

If you can't guess and no one will tell you, wait for the answer in the next Newsletter!



Lenten Retreat:

Looking for a way to make this Lent more meaningful. Join us for a retreat, March 29th from 9:00 – 3:00 at Old Durham Church. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The retreat will focus on Mediations on issues of forgiveness with opportunities to explore various forms of prayer. There is a sign-up sheet on the board. Please sign up by March 22nd.



NETS

(Neighbors Eager to Serve)

Stay tuned for more information on our Easter plans. Last year St. James' alone provided fourteen (14) Easter Baskets to needy children in the community. NETS will also be providing food baskets to those in need for Easter.

Just a reminder that parishioners are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items on the first Sunday of each month. These donations are given to the pantry of the NETS organization which provides support to those in need located in the western part of Charles County.

Thank you,

Barbara Prasser

Our mission statement:

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

Haiti Mission Trip



Rev Denise, Jackie, Adah, Brenda, Doug, Jack, and Thomas at National Airport (Ruth not in the picture)

First we would like to thank you all for the prayers and good wishes. The trip was very enlightening and until the last day, uneventful. We had the privilege of meeting many of Haiti's finest citizens and got to see some very beautiful scenery as well as some of the most depressing sights you could imagine. Our mission started with our arrival in Port-Au-Prince and the 2 hour drive to Gonaives. Aside from the flat tire, we arrived in good shape and were greeted by Jean Fils and his family. I won't talk about the food other than to say, we ate like kings! We slept in tents and made do with showers that didn't pretend to have hot water.



Sunday morning came and we attended 2 services. The first in Gonaives, the second which was a challenge to get to was at St Matthieu, the church where we are sponsoring the school. We returned to St Matthieu on Monday to present gifts and school supplies to the students and teachers. This gave us an opportunity to get further acquainted and tour the facilities.





On Tuesday, Jean Fils took us to a "Resort", Le Village D'Ennery where we were able to relax by the pool and swim.



Did I mention the food?



Wednesday was our travel day. First stop was in Port-Au-Prince where Denise got reacquainted with some of the Seminarians followed by lunch in a really nice Hotel/Restaurant. Then we travelled on to Mirebalais.










After a relaxing day, we turned in and then Thursday morning happened! We did however, get a tour of the hospital which I believe is the biggest in the Caribbean.

These are just some of the highlights of the trip, but it doesn't even come close to telling the whole story. You will have an opportunity to hear more about our trip as we are in the process of putting together a presentation that will answer any questions you might have and give a more rounded accounting of our trip. This will be a 'Thank You for Your Support' Eat 'n' Greet in the Hall and you are all invited!! So mark your calendars now and plan on coming Sunday, March 30th, at 5 PM.

- Doug -

MARCH 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	24 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting	25	26	27 7:00 PM Choir Practice	28	1
2	3	4  5:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	5 	6 7:00 PM Choir Practice	7	8
9	10	11 7:00 PM Evening Service	12 12:00 PM Noon Eucharist 7:00 PM Finance Committee	13 7:00 PM Choir Practice	14  10:00 AM Beading	15  3:00 PM St. Patrick's Day Dinner Children \$7.50; Adults \$18.00
16	17 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting	18  7:00 PM Evening Service	19  Poultry Day 12:00 PM Noon Eucharist	20 7:00 PM Choir Practice	21	22  10:00 AM Beading
23	24	25  7:00 PM Evening Service	26  12:00 PM Noon Eucharist	27 7:00 PM Choir Practice	28	29 10:00 AM Beading  9:00 AM Retreat - Held at Old Durham
30	31  5:00 PM Haiti Mission Trip Eat 'n Greet	1 7:00 PM Evening Service	2 12:00 PM Noon Eucharist	3 7:00 PM Choir Practice	4	5



St. James' Episcopal Church
7 Potomac Avenue
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20640

