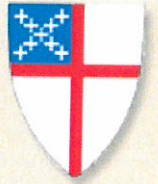




St. James' Episcopal Church Indian Head, Maryland



November 2013



Rector's Ramblings

I understand that some people feel that we are focusing too much on helping the people of Haiti and not enough on helping people who are closer to home. And so I want to use this rambling space to hopefully clear up some misunderstandings about the Haiti mission work and mission work in general.

A few years ago I invited anyone who was interested in discerning how God was calling us to serve his people to come to a Saturday morning meeting. We had about a dozen people who showed up. We began this process of discernment that lasted over several weeks that involved looking into areas of need in the county, the state, the country and the world and most importantly praying about why we were doing this and what we hoped to experience. One of the first things we did was to pray about what we hoped to experience and what came out of that was to form relationships with people and to be able to visit them.

As we continued the process many of us felt drawn to Haiti, it is among the poorest places on earth and there is so much need. It was then we invited my friend The Rev. Joseph Constant to come and talk about Haiti and the Haiti Micah Project that he started in Meribalais. Our hearts were touched by what we heard but, we also felt it was not a safe place to visit and so crossed it off the list as the place we would do our mission work. But we kept talking about it. So we decided God was asking us to do something there so why don't we at least support the Micah project and continue to discern where God wanted us to be. We did some things with Honduras, but it never really got off the ground. Nothing seemed to really catch us on fire. Then the earthquake hit Haiti.

We started to hear about all these teenagers and young adults who were there doing all kinds of good work and we thought, "If these kids are there, what are we afraid of?" And so we started to revisit it. At the same time I started to plan my sabbatical and right away felt I needed to go to Haiti, God was definitely calling me there and I had to see why. Doug thought I was crazy but agreed to spend a week with me there. After my time there, I knew I could not leave those people and not try to do something to make life better for them. I got particularly close to the seminarians and Doug and I thought we would commit to helping them. Then Jean Fils contacted me and said he would be here in March and could he visit us. We had the pot luck dinner to meet him and have him meet my congregation as I had met his. People heard his story and many said, we need to do something to help. We met to talk about what this might be. Roughly fifteen people met to talk about partnering with one of Jean Fils churches to help him provide a quality education for some of the children in order to help make a lasting difference in their lives. This is now a project of St. James' not because I visited Haiti, but because there is now a group of parishioners who feel as passionately about this as I do.

That is what mission is all about. It is about listening to your heart, listening to God speak to you calling you to do God's work in the world. It could be right here in Charles County or in Maryland or somewhere across the country or the

world. The Good Samaritan story not only tells us that everyone is our neighbor but that when someone in need is placed in your path, you don't walk around them. The people of Haiti were put in my path and I am passionate about helping, I am grateful that others here feel the same way but I would have done it regardless, just me and Doug.

Helping Haiti is not an either/or in regards to other needs, it is a both/and. There is so much need in the world and yes, right here in Indian Head and much of it we as a church try to respond to and will continue to do so. And, if there is something that catches your heart on fire to respond to, I hope, I pray you will bring it to the church, you will find others who feel the same and will start working on that. And we will all help you in whatever ways we can. A church that is serious about their faith is a church in action and not necessarily all doing the same thing but everyone doing something.

And that is precisely what our Community Dinner money is for. It is to help with things that come up that we can respond to no matter where it is. We have helped people here in Indian Head, Lifestyles in La Plata (They run Safe Nights), people going to do mission work in Egypt, a priest in Honduras, a Native American school in South Dakota, the Bishop Walker School in DC and yes, Haiti. And if anyone is raising money for any cause you don't feel moved to give to, simply and politely say no. No one is expected to give to everything.

My prayer is that God finds a way into all our hearts to do what our mission statement says, share our blessings in God's name so we can show God's love to others. Who, how and where is between you and God.

Peace,

Denise+



Message from your Senior Warden

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

When faced with a serious illness, life has a way of being quickly put into perspective. That is one of the gifts of being a "survivor." Daily, I am able to count my abundant blessings. During the month of November, Americans focus on giving thanks. The St. James family has much to be thankful for. We are a very generous and giving congregation. This time of year, especially offers many opportunities in our parish to share our blessings. I am confident once again our family will bless the community with our generous and giving spirit.

I look forward to Advent and the beauty of our advent wreath symbolizing the beginning of our church year. On Christmas Eve, when the sanctuary is adorned with the poinsettias, I find myself gazing at the wreath, and the candles as they flicker, and reflect the light of Christ. For a number of years, I have incorporated the wreath in my home. I enjoy the ritual of quiet time, reflection, and an advent devotional. It is a very sacred and centering time. It is a great way to focus on the waiting for the arrival of our Savior. Advent is a time filled with so much hope, anticipation and promise. I pray as the candles symbolize Christ's light to the world, that we will reflect the light of God's grace to others.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Winston Churchill



By Jr. Warden

I am so grateful for my amazing church family who is always so supportive and caring. The outpouring of love and concern throughout the illness of my sister Jo was so comforting. I want to thank each and every one of you for the wonderful service and reception which you all so generously helped to put together. The music was heavenly and the food was superb. Thank you and May God Bless You All!

Love and Peace,
Adah



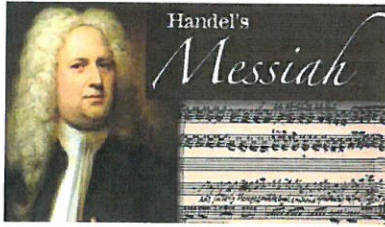
Advent

Advent is just around the corner and as we know it is a new season in the church, the Church's new year. The worship committee is always looking to find ways that distinctly mark each season of the church year. This year we are doing some of what we have always done and also a few new things. We will be using the Advent wreath and candles but a slightly different prayer to light it still asking members of the congregation to lead the prayers and light the candles. If you are interested in doing this, please talk to Karen Burroughs. The **First Sunday in Advent December 1st**. We will do what we have done for the past several years and that is to have **one service at 9:00 of Lessons and Carols and Eucharist.**

Also, beginning that Sunday we have our announcements and Birthday/Anniversary blessings before the start of the service. We will still start at 8:00 and 9:15 and 10:30 (or on Dec. 1st at 9:00). We will do the announcements and birthdays and anniversaries, then do the procession, and at 10:30 opening hymn. This allows us to enter into the Liturgy of the Table, Communion, without so much of a break as if it were intermission. At 10:30 we'll be using a new hymn to get us together from The Peace that will flow nicely into the Eucharist. We hope this will help you prepare for the Liturgy of the Table in a more intentional way.

Perhaps the biggest change will be the service. We are using parts of services from other Anglican traditions including the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church. This is to help us remember that we are part of something larger than ourselves and as we await the coming of our Savior, we are reminded that He is the savior of the world. We will be using these at both the 8:00 and 10:30 services.

We hope you will find Advent to be a holy season and that your experience at worship will aid in this experience.



Handel's Messiah

The Fort Washington Community Chorus featuring our own Joan Shaw, Tom & Brenda Peterson, Rosalie Puterbaugh and Doug Scott will present portions of Handel's Messiah on Sunday, December 1st at 4:00PM. If you have been in the past, take note, concert has been moved to a new location. It will be performed at Providence-Fort Washington United Methodist Church at 10610 Old Fort Road, Fort Washington.



We will have a 9:00AM Thanksgiving Day service. Put your turkey in the oven and come give thanks for it!



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve – 7:00 - family service with pageant



9:30- Carol Sing



10:00 – Eucharist

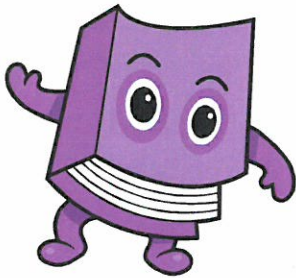


Please let Denise know if you would like to come on Christmas Morning and she will be more than happy to have a service!!!



VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 2014 COFFEE HOUR

Each Sunday at least two parishioners are needed to donate a snack and to coordinate that week's coffee hour. The coffee and other drinks, along with the plates and eating utensils, are provided by the church. The more parishioners that volunteer, the less each person will need to provide on their selected Sundays. If you are interested in helping, or if you have any questions, please contact Sheila Gray. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board. Thanks in advance.



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.



50/50 Raffles

50/50 raffles will be held to help fund the trip to Haiti. Tickets will be on sell at coffee hours and at all church events. The first drawing took place after the indoor yard sale.

The next one will take place at the Spaghetti Dinner on November 25.



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

Free Community Spaghetti Dinner



Donations of \$301 were received at the free community spaghetti dinner held on September 30th. This money was used for the children of Haiti.

The next spaghetti dinner will be held on **Monday, November 25th**. We are in need French and Thousand Island dressing and as always, desserts. Sign-up sheet to help is on the bulletin board.

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



FELLOWSHIP

We recently had a Karoke at Mama Stella's and I think it was the best one yet. One more chance to sing your heart out in 2013! It is on December 13th starting at 6:30. Please join us. It is a blast! If 6:30 is too early on a Friday, join us when you can. Sign-up is on the bulletin board.

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

Twelfth Night Celebration

This year since Epiphany falls on a Monday and if we move it to Sunday, January 5th we lose one Sunday in Christmas to sing Christmas music, we decided to do an Epiphany celebration on Epiphany, Monday, January 6th. This is an old tradition that is not done very much anymore but we thought we would try to revive it. Now there is some confusion these days as to which night is Twelfth Night: the modern practice is often to regard the night of Epiphany itself (sixth of January) to be Twelfth Night. The older tradition of Twelfth Night being the 5 January, stems from the medieval practice of the day beginning at sunset, rather than at midnight as it does now. Thus Twelfth Night fell on 5 January, ahead of Twelfth Day on the 6th. We are going to celebrate it on the 6th.

So on Monday, January 6th at 7:00 we are having a Twelfth Night Party! We will have a roast pork dinner, wine (instead of the Burning Bishop that is the traditional drink, you can google that one) a King's Cake, a King or Queen of the night, music, fellowship and offer gifts to our King. We are asking you to bring a side dish or dessert and a gift to offer to our newborn King, Jesus. The gifts can be a food item for NETS, something for the folks going to Haiti to bring to the children (personal care items, shoes, books in French) or a financial donation to either NETS or Haiti. Everyone is welcome, please let us know if you would like to come but need a ride. Sign-up sheet is on the board.



Clean-up day:

We will be raking the yard, cleaning gutters and sprucing up for the winter. **December 14th 9:00-noon.**
Please join us if you can as many hands make light work!



Prayer Breakfast - Postponed until January 25th, 2014 9:00-11:00



Christmas Tea

The theme is **WINTER WONDERLAND** and will be held at the Pavilion in Indian Head, Maryland from **12:00 to 2:30 PM.**

There will be a **Tea Cup Contest** and a **Surprise Visitor.**

Tickets: \$17.00 per person/Children \$8.50 12 and under



Prayer List

We are trying something new with our prayer list. We have a wonderful tradition here at St. James of reading aloud the names on the prayer list. Sometimes however, our list gets really long. So we thought we would try separating the names that are on the short term list from the ones who are in perpetual need. The short term list of names will be read as we always have and the others will be listed asking people to hold these folks in their prayers. Remember names on the short term list stay on for four weeks and if you want them continued you will need to put them on again.

The military list is for those folks we know are deployed and when they return we ask that you let us know and we will take them off.



On Beads of Prayer Ministry

The On Beads of Prayer ministry continues to meet 2x a month in the parish hall. Come & join us in the fellowship of stringing & bagging prayer beads for the military about to be deployed. Our dates in Dec are the Friday the 13th & Saturday the 28th. In January we will meet on Friday the 10th and Saturday the 25th.

Hope to see you there.

Have a GREAT day!
Martha



Meaningful Mission Experience (MME) Meeting:

Several of us participated in the MME by using Mission money to have a more intimate experience of mission. We are gathering on **Wednesday, January 8th at 7:00 in the parlor of the Costain House** to talk about how this experience went for everyone. Join us to share, to hear from folks who participated and to join us in conversations on whether or not to repeat this experience.

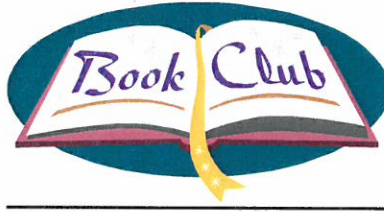
Stewardship

As we know, Stewardship is not only pledging each year, but also a large part of the time and talents we give back to the church. I thought it would be a good idea to provide you with some information each quarter about stewardship facts that are not a part of pledging. This quarter, I am focusing on Coffee Hour.

- 51 Sundays a year
- 27 people 4 times per year
- 8 hrs of grocery shopping/preparing food/set/clean up - by each person for each Sunday = 864 hours a year
- Approximate cost of \$75 per Sunday to buy the groceries needed = \$5,100 a year. Donated by each parishioner who is working coffee hour.

All of this provided willingly by members of St. James' to further the mission of our church, encourage fellowship, and following the footsteps of the Lord.

Cathy



The Story

This year, we're doing something new. Starting the first week of Advent, the church new year, we are going to begin reading only one book. But, I think you'll agree, it's worth some special focus. It's the most important book you could think of — The Bible.

A study of over 1,000 Christian congregations recently determined that nothing has more effect on spiritual growth than scriptural reflection. And yet, many of us have never read the Bible and are not able to converse fluidly about its stories and their meaning in our lives.

We'll be using a Bible curriculum called [The Story](#). It divides the Bible into 31 segments and tells the Christian story in a narrative chronology. We'll cover one segment each week from December through the end of June. To participate, all you need is a Bible.

We will be following along with the Diocesan program "The People of the Way" as they too read through the Bible using The Story. **We will gather on Tuesday evenings, beginning on December 3rd at 7:00. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board and the location will be determined once we see how many people sign up.** This is for ANYONE and EVERYONE, you don't need to have ANY Bible experience at all. **Remember you do not have to commit to all 32 sessions.**

If evenings are not good for you, let me know and if we get a group, we can find a day time to do this as well.

If you would rather do it on your own, you can just log into the Diocesan website and do it at home - www.edow.org/peopleoftheway, you'll see a calendar of 31 weeks of study. As we get to each week, its label will become a hyperlink that accesses a blog-type reflection and some questions for contemplation. It has everything you need to do a personal study.

I know that 31 weeks is a big commitment and not everyone will be able to meet each week and that is okay. We will do the best we can to meet weekly and if there are times we can't we can figure out how to get it all in. There will be a sign-up sheet on the board in November.

FALL BAZAAR THANK YOU

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the 2013 Fall Bazaar a success. Thanks for your time and for your donations. We made over \$3,000 and we couldn't have done it without you.

Gratefully,
The ECW
Adah Morgan, Bazaar Coordinator

ST. JAMES' 2013/2014 SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS

2013

- November 24 Parent Breakfast (No 9:15 a.m. service)
- December 1 First Sunday in Advent – Blended Service
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (No 9:15 a.m. service)
- *December 15 Items due for Operation Shoe Box – Haiti (Children will create shoe boxes filled with supplies such as toothpaste, pencils, and other items that fit into a shoe box, to be donated to the Haiti children.)
- December 22 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- December 24 Christmas Pageant
- December 29 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

2014

- *January 24 (Friday) Children's Movie Night
- February 2 Annual Meeting – Blended Service
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (No 9:15 a.m. service)
- *March 2 Pretzel Making Sunday (No 9:15 a.m. service)
Meet at 10:15 a.m. to make pretzels
Pretzels served at the coffee hour
One of the children will read the story about the pretzel making and how it came to be.
- *March 30 Sunday School to go Bowling
- April 13 Palm Sunday
Children Read the Passion at 9:15 a.m. Children's Service
- April 20 Easter Sunday
Easter Egg Hunt after the 9:15 a.m. Children's Service
- May 18 Sundae Making Sunday after the 9:15 a.m. service
Bring a Friend to Church
- June 1 Sunday School Awards During Coffee Hour (11:45 a.m.)
(No 9:15 a.m. service)
Kids to participate in the 10:30 a.m. service

Charles County Churches Lessons and Carols

December 8th at 4:00 right here at St. James a combined choir from Piney Church, Old Durham, Christ Church La Plata and St. James will lead us in singing Lessons and Carols. This will be a different presentation from our service on Dec. 1st. Please join us.



Christmas Pageant

Please mark your calendars for this year's Christmas pageant to be held on Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 PM. If your child can participate in the pageant, contact Brenda Peterson. Practices are held after the 10:30 AM service each Sunday.

All children are invited to attend.

Genesis Health Care Center

A weekly/monthly service of holy communion is being offered to the residents of Genesis Health Care Center, La Plata, by Rev. Denise and our organist, Julie Bivens.

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 to span several pages here. If you would like to see more detail, feel free to contact me and I'll fill you in. Also, the activities of the Special Donations In and Special Donations Out accounts have been a source of confusion for many people. I'm going to start reporting this separately so you can see how this money flows in and out of our checking account. Keep in mind that these donations and expenditures are not a budgeted item. For instance, how could we possibly budget for a natural disaster like Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines? Last week we collected \$650 to help with the relief efforts in the Philippines. This money will show up in the Special Donations In account. After I write the check for \$650, this money will appear in the Special Donations Out account. If you would like more information on how this all works, just let me know. Ok?

3:07 PM
11/09/13
Cash Basis

St James' Episcopal Church
Budget vs. Actual
January through October 2013

	TOTAL				2013 Budget
	Sep 13	Oct 13	Jan - Oct 13	Budget	
Income					
Total Contributions Income	15,277.00	12,989.00	124,248.35	125,833.34	151,000.00
Total Other Income	4,680.00	0.00	8,291.50	10,416.68	12,500.00
Total Income	19,957.00	12,989.00	132,539.85	136,250.02	163,500.00
Expense					
Building/Rectory Insurance	574.00	0.00	4,194.80	4,375.00	5,250.00
General					
Total Education/Training/Enrichment	0.00	0.00	2,036.45	1,750.02	2,100.00
Total General Financial	1,434.50	1,434.50	12,910.50	14,345.00	17,214.00
Total General Mission	25.00	551.93	3,366.77	3,333.36	4,000.00
Total General Worship	876.00	700.00	9,814.36	10,500.02	12,600.00
Total Other Expenses	1,027.88	27.50	2,880.87	3,166.68	3,800.00
Total General	3,363.38	2,713.93	31,008.95	33,095.08	39,714.00
Operations					
Total Building Maintenance	150.00	0.00	4,136.81	5,841.68	7,010.00
Total Office Expenses	205.82	599.22	3,967.13	3,800.04	4,560.00
Total Utilities	752.48	1,579.03	19,446.48	19,135.74	22,962.84
Total Operations	1,108.30	2,178.25	27,550.42	28,777.46	34,532.84
Personnel					
Total Clergy Compensation	4,893.30	7,924.67	69,060.71	66,335.98	79,603.16
Total Clergy Related Expenses	0.00	760.25	3,224.12	3,250.04	3,900.00
Total Personnel	4,893.30	8,684.92	72,284.83	69,586.02	83,503.16
Youth Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	416.68	500.00
Total Expense	9,938.98	13,577.10	135,039.00	136,250.24	163,500.00
Net Income	10,018.02	-588.10	-2,499.15		
Special Donations/Projects In					
St. Matthieu (Haiti) Teachers				2,286.08	
Maiti Micah Project				160.00	
Donation for Choir				500.00	
Transferred from B&G Account to cover Bricks				557.50	
Flower money in wrong Account				35.00	
Help a Family Rent				500.00	
				<u>4,038.58</u>	
Special Donations/Projects Out					
Haiti Micah Project				225.00	
Denise - repay her Discretionary Fund				40.00	
Olde Mill Impressions - bricks				557.50	
Help a Family				110.00	
Help a Family Rent				500.00	
St. Matthieu (Haiti) Teachers				1,685.00	
				<u>3,117.50</u>	



Our mission statement:

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

*Want or Need
to Learn
Spanish?*

Spanish Classes all Levels

Spanish is my first language, I offer personal and small group classes, I was an educator in my native country (master degree level).

If you're serious about learning, I can teach you!

These classes are in la Plata, Waldorf and various places in the area

With our classes you will learn:

- Reading
- Writing
- Grammar
- Conversation—good pronunciation
- etc

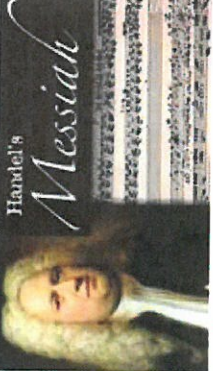





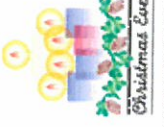



Courses for children, tutoring for middle, high school, or college students.

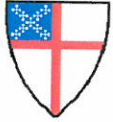
Courses for adults who need to learn Spanish for business, vacation, etc.

For more information send me an email: amandaandino@gmail.com



DECEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p>  <p>9:00 AM Only 1 Service today at 9 - Lessons and Carols 4:00 PM Handel's Messiah Performance - F/T Brenda, Joan, Rosalie, Doug and Tom</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00 PM Story Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>12:00 PM Christmas Tea</p>
<p>8</p>  <p>3:00 PM Lessons and Carols F/T combined Choirs of St James' Old Durham, Piney, and Christ Church La Plata</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 PM Story Bible Study</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>11:30 AM Piney Church Fabulous 50+ Luncheon 7:00 PM Finance Committee 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>  <p>10:00 AM Beading 6:30 PM Karaoke Night at Mama Stella's</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>9:00 AM Outside Clean Up Day</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 PM Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00 PM Story Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>7:00 PM Family Service with Children's Pageant 9:30 PM Caroling 10:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Choir</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>9:00 AM Christmas Day Servicer 8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>10:00 AM Beading</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> 	<p>1</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>



St. James' Episcopal Church
7 Potomac Avenue
Indian Head, MD
20640

