



St. James' Episcopal Church Indian Head, Maryland



November 2012



Rector's Ramblings

It is that time of year again, leaves are turning color, pumpkins and mums are decorating people's houses, kids are all geared up for Halloween, most of us are buying our second or third stashes of candy for the trick-or-treaters having eaten the first ones and, you will soon be receiving your annual Stewardship letters from Cathy Jenkins. Stewardship is one of those annual things that churches "do" this time of year and for very practical reasons – it is almost the end of the year (yes, even the Christmas stuff is making appearances) and finance committees are starting to look towards 2013 and the new budget. It is almost impossible to do the next year's budget without having some idea what the church will have for income and most of a church's income comes from its members, from people like you (now I sound like NPR) who pledge to give some of what God has given to you back to God through your church. But there are also Biblical and spiritual reasons for pledging.

Our first "pledger" was Abraham. We hear in Genesis 14:18-20 "And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!' And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything." It is from Abraham's response of giving at tenth of his income to Melchizedek, because of Melchizedek's hospitality and blessing, that we get the tithe or giving ten percent of our income back to God in response to God's blessings upon us. We give because all that we have is really God's and we give in thanksgiving for all that God has given to us.

We also give to support the church we love and the ministries we are passionate about. The more we become involved and commit ourselves to our church, the more we want to see it grow in the knowledge and love of and service to God. It is our gifts of our time, talent and I am not going to say "treasure" because I think it is a word we use to avoid talking about money, so it is our gifts of our time, talent and money that allows St. James' to serve God in all the ways we do.

Cathy's letter talks about renewal, the renewal of our faith, of our commitment, of our lives to God. Renewal is vitally important in our faith journey because as Brian McLaren says in his book, *Finding Our Way Again*, the faithful "were not called to a comfortable seat in a well appointed waiting room but to a steep and winding footpath toward a life that is truly alive." It is within this context that we ask you to prayerfully consider your pledge to St. James' reflecting how is God calling you to renew your faith, your commitment to Christ, your support of the ministries we are called to at this time, in this place.

Please take some time to pray, consider, make a heartfelt pledge and turn in your pledge card on November 4th.

With gratitude,

Denise+

Additional Notes from our Rector

The Rev. Thomas Clay and Kathleen O'Day will no longer be attending St. James'. We are thankful for the time that they were with us and we pray for God's blessings upon them in their continued journey in Christ.



Haiti



My friend Jean Fils Chery, the priest who was the Rector of the church where I taught English to primary school children in Port-Au-Prince, was moved to a new church. Here is the email he sent explaining his situation.

Hi Denise,

By decision of bishop Duracin, I have moved to a new church where no electricity and no water. I am in charge of 4 churches and 4 schools with many many challenges. Some people think that the bishop is punishing me because I was supporting Oge at the elections to become bishop. Oge was not his preferred candidate. Where I am living now, it is no real condition to live with my son of 10 months and my wife. I can deal with no electricity, no water and sleep as it is, but I can not keep my family in these conditions. Before I was moved, St. George's Episcopal in Virginia has helped us to pay the teachers at Notre-Dame. But here at St. Etienne where I am now, there is one of the schools where many teachers were not paid during several months. You can imagine they are calling and/or visiting me every day to know what plan to pay them. Imagine also a priest in no real condition to live I can think for 4 churches and 4 schools. I have faith. I will keep my ministry even the conditions are what they are. So, I would ask St. James to be supportive of one of those 4 schools, this would be very helpful because with St. George's I know that Notre-Dame can keep going.

Denise, I know that you are also a priest and have visited Haiti and seen in some conditions the Haitian priests are working. I am describing you my new situation, the suffragan Bishop Oge, is copied on this e-mail and can let you know better about the situation.

One of my colleagues has been visiting me and made a gift of 4 batteries that I need to build an electric system (inverter). I would be very grateful to St. James parishioners if they could provide to St. Etienne that system. That would help not only the priest and family to have light in the night but also some students around could enjoy for studying in the evening too. Besides money you can also send supplies as chalk, printer, tooth brushes and soap for the children.

Hope to hear from you soon,

Blessings,

Jean Fils+

If you feel called to help with money or supplies, please make checks payable to St. James and put Haiti in the memo. We will be sending supplies down as well in the next few weeks if you would like to send tooth brushes, soap, chalk or other school supplies.

Message from the Senior Warden

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

From October 6, 2012 – Forward Day by Day

"In our house we called it the "same old Mommy syndrome. Our son rejected what I told him, but if Grandma or Teacher said the same thing it was believed. Jesus remarked, "Prophets are not without honor except in their own country and in their own house." (Matthew 13:57). Paul was told to leave Jerusalem because he could not effectively preach to the people there; they knew too much about his past to accept him.

The son in this reading reminded me of my sons. No matter how much talking I do to them on a subject matter, it is never believed what I say. It is always more credible, as far as my sons are concerned, if the same advice is given by a teacher or another adult that's not me. After all, I'm just mom and I just like to complain. Now I even find myself having other adults tell my teenager things so that he will believe it to be true. How frustrating that can be.

Do any of you have this problem? Do you try and give good advice to loved ones and they don't want to listen to you or believe you? It's not just good advice because you have said it, but it's good because you have lived it and you know what works and doesn't work.

Here's the advice given in the Day-by-Day.

If those close to you seem to reject what you offer, express your love for them and commit them and the situation to God's care. Then listen for the call to follow other opportunities.

I guess I'll take this advice!

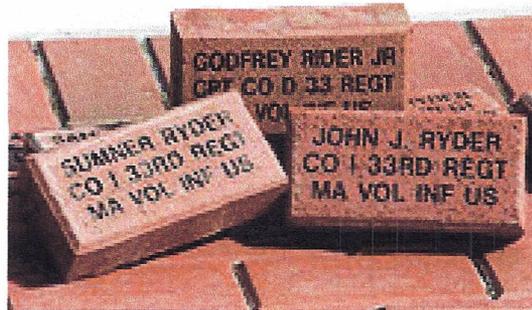
Stewardship Sunday

Please return your pledge cards on **Sunday, November 4th**. If you did not receive a pledge letter or card to return and would like one, please let Denise know and she will be sure to get one to you.



Parrish Hall Rental

We are trying to promote the rental of the parish hall as it is a great source of church income. If you know of anyone that needs to use a hall for a wedding reception, dinner, birthday party, etc., please have them contact Karen Burroughs.



Memorial Walkway

The bricks for our Memorial Walkway are scheduled to be shipped from Olde Mill Impressions in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania the week of October 22, 2012. By the time you read this the bricks may already be here. We are working with Denison Landscaping to coordinate the installation of the walkway.

The walkway will consist of the 90 engraved bricks that were purchased as well as plain bricks. Plain bricks can be replaced with engraved bricks as additional memorial bricks are purchased. Thus the memorial will continue to grow. The opportunity to order additional bricks will be provided at least once a year.

To each of you who purchased a brick, thank you for making this walkway possible. We hope that the walkway will be a source of comfort, peace, and beauty honoring you and your loved ones.



Beads on Prayer

The beading group continues to meet biweekly. The dates in November are Friday the 9th & Saturday the 24th. In December we will meet Friday the 14th and the 5th Saturday, because of Christmas. In Jan we will meet Friday the 11th & Sat the 26th. We will be stringing prayer beads for the military, and also packing some for shipment, 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

Free Community Spaghetti Dinner



Donations of \$231 were received at the free community spaghetti dinner held on September 26th. This money will be used to help the needy.

The next spaghetti dinner will be held on **Monday, November 26th**.



Ham and Crab Cake Dinner



If you missed the Ham and Crab Cake Dinner, it was an excellent meal. We realized a profit of approximately \$3,130. This money will be used to cover our parish expenses.

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



FELLOWSHIP

Look for announcements on the bulletin board for upcoming events.

Knitting/Crocheting is on the third Wednesday of the month. Anyone who does not drive at night but would like to fellowship with us, let us know and we will pick you up. If you want to learn to knit or crochet we will be happy to help you.

As always, if you have any ideas, please let me know!

Love in Christ,

Adah

Thanksgiving

PARENT'S BREAKFAST



The Sunday school will prepare a breakfast for parents on November 18, 2012 at 9:15 a.m. Please come and let the children cook for you on this special Sunday morning.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE



There will be a **Thanksgiving Day service at 9:00**. Put your turkey in and come give thanks to God for all the blessings bestowed upon you and your loved ones.



St James' Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

Due to the lack of participation from the women of St. James, disbandment of ECW is under consideration.

The next ECW meeting is being held at 9:00 on Sunday, November 28 to determine if there is a better meeting time for the majority of interested women.

Those of us who participate feel ECW is important to St. James and a way of bonding the women in God's love and work!

In Christ's love and peace,
ECW Committee



Mission Committee

We will again be providing Christmas gifts for residents in the two La Plata Nursing Homes. I have contacted both homes and they are providing us with gift requests. The Genesis Home has also begun a new program for their Alzheimer patients. They have found that music therapy has been extremely helpful for their patients. They would greatly appreciate donations of used and refurbished iPods. These are available at Game Stop stores for about \$20 each. Once we receive the gift requests we will place them on our Christmas Giving Tree. Thanks for your support!



NETS

(Neighbors Eager to Serve)

On behalf of NETS we thank you for your continued support of our efforts to serve the people on the Western side of Charles County. The holidays are just around the corner and again this year we will fill requests for about two hundred Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, providing these families with a holiday dinner, along with other non-perishable foods to last them about a week.

The members of St. James' have always been very generous with their donations throughout the year. To refresh your memory I am including a list for you to consider when you are doing your shopping. We will be distributing the Thanksgiving baskets on Tuesday, Nov. 20. If you would like to make a donation I would ask you to have them to the church by Sunday, Nov. 18.

The Christmas baskets will be distributed on Dec. 21. At that time our clients will have the opportunity to shop at our "Christmas Store". This includes new and almost new items that have been donated. We also have a "Toy Store" where parents can pick up new toys and almost new toys. Last but not least, is my favorite: a Gift Shop where the children can shop for Mom and Dad and even get it gift wrapped. These items include new or nice as new things, such as gift sets, jewelry, gloves, scarves, etc. A good chance for you to empty out that drawer of "regiftable" items you never got around to using.

FOOD IDEAS: Frozen Turkeys (10 – 15 lbs.), Stuffing, Gravy, Instant Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes (canned), Cranberry Sauce, Canned Vegetables

The food pantry is open all year and we average one or two families a week. We stock cereals, soups, pastas (canned or boxed), sauces, canned meats, and tuna. We are not allowed to distribute food that has passed its suggested expiration date.

Our NETS organization is proud to announce that our own Jackie Williams has joined our group of volunteers and is doing a great job serving in the office, where we assist our clients by helping them with their utility bill and rent. We thank you for your continued support and wish you all a very Blessed Holiday!

Thank you,

Barbara Prasser



Advent Schedule

1st Sunday in Advent - December 2
One Service Only at 9:00 - Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve Services:

7:00 - Family Service - Christmas Pageant

9:30 - Carol Sing

10:00 - Service with Choir

If anyone wishes to attend a Christmas Day Service please let Rev. Denise know, otherwise there will be no service on Christmas Morning.



You are cordially invited to

"The Nutcracker Tea"

December 1, 2012

The Pavilion
Indian Head

12:00 to 2:30 pm

Tickets \$15.00 per person (tickets available soon)

Bring your beautiful tea cups and tea pots



COMICS by Joshua Gray



Bazaar News - November 3, 2012

Sign-up Sheets - There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for the following -

Thursday, November 1 - Make Apple Dumplings - 10:00 a.m.

Friday, November 2 - Prepare food for Bazaar luncheon - 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, November 3 - Work at the Bazaar - 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Work at the Bazaar in Kitchen - 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Bake Sale Donations

Bake Sale - Please have items for the Bake Sale at the Bazaar by 9:30 a.m. Items should be donated in containers that can be given away. If you are making a cake, please consider making two smaller cakes instead of one large one.

Gift Baskets - Bazaar gift baskets are on display in the Parish Hall. Please continue to support the ECW by making donations to these baskets. Winning tickets will be drawn at the Bazaar. One ticket is \$2.00 - six tickets are \$10.00.

Checks should be made to St. James' ECW. Checks will not be deposited until after the Bazaar.

Thank you for your support.

St. James' Episcopal Church

Fall Bazaar

Indian Head, Maryland

November 3, 2012 • 10 am-3:00 pm

Have lunch with us!

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Homemade BBQ and Chicken Salad

Hot Dogs and Chips

❖ Prayer Beads

❖ Get a free photo
with Santa

❖ Bake Sale

Homemade Cream Puffs,
Apple Dumplings & More

❖ Vendors

Crafts, Antiques,
Purses, Jewelry & More

❖ Drawings for Baskets

Gift baskets include tickets for the Redskins/Dallas game and gift certificates for Denison Landscaping, AMC Theatres, iTunes, Pizza Hut, Mama Stella's, Toys R Us, Giant Food, Starbucks, and more.

7 Potomac Avenue • Indian Head, MD 20640

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Our mission statement:

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

NOVEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31  Trunk or Treat 8:00 PM AA Meeting	1 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting	2	3  10:00 AM Famous Fall Bazaar
4 	5	6  SERVING MEALS TO THE HOMELESS	7 2:30 PM Weight Watchers 8:00 PM AA Meeting	8 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting	9  10:00 AM Beading	10  Homeless Outreach
11	12  Chicken Soup for the Soul Day	13	14 7:00 PM Finance Committee 8:00 PM AA Meeting	15  Use Less Stuff Day 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting	16	17
18  9:15 AM Parent's Breakfast	19 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting	20	21 2:30 PM Weight Watchers 7:00 PM Knitting Group 8:00 PM AA Meeting	22  A Feast of Gratitude 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting	23	24 10:00 AM Beading
25	26  Spaghetti Dinner 5:00 PM Community Spaghetti Dinner	27	28 8:00 PM AA Meeting	29 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:00 PM NA Meeting	30  CHURCH & HOME Stay at Home Because You are Well Day	1



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