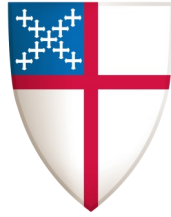




The Epistle

June / July / August
Issue 2017



St. James' Episcopal Church

knowing and serving God by serving others

Collegeville, Pennsylvania
610-489-7564

Dear Friends in Christ,

Wow! Another program year has been completed and we are making our plans for relaxation and respite this summer. I wish all of you a fun and relaxing vacation time and pray you all use lots of sunscreen and such to be safe! Despite the fact that it is now summertime, the work of the Church continues. We have lots of plans this summer! We look forward to a new website and new membership software programs to be implemented. We will update our financial software and well as our hardware and network systems. We hope to be able to provide an electronic giving system in the very near future. We also look forward to the feasibility study report from Impact Stewardship and making plans for the upcoming capital campaign. There is a lot going on! Thanks be to God! Please remember to make worship a part of your summer plans. If you are away, please bring me a bulletin from the church you are visiting so I can appropriate all of the good ideas I find! A heart felt thank you to all who have made this program year so successful. Your labor in the vineyard is greatly appreciated.

*May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Romans 15:13 (BCP pg. 102)

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Mike Sowards, D. Min.

Rector

Rector

- ◆ The Rev. Dr. Mike Sowards, D. Min.
215-251-8856

Vestry

- ◆ Barbara Bateman, Rector's Warden
610-489-9712
- ◆ Jon Yenney, Vestry Secretary
610-454-0179

Buildings & Grounds

- ◆ Jean Beers 215-256-6064
- ◆ Rick Toth 610-495-6913
- ◆ Gene Goff 610-489-0765

Communications

- ◆ Drew Beck 484-752-8244

Education

- ◆ Mike Sowards 215-251-8856

Finance

- ◆ Chris Kristofco 215-272-1910
- ◆ Dale Pennacker, Treasurer
610-933-5177

Outreach & Companion

- ◆ Kathy Lochocki 610-585-5586
- ◆ Jackie Dahlen 610-792-0935

Parish Life & Member Ministries

- ◆ Sarah Reid 610-539-7953
- ◆ Melanie Jackson 610-831-1987
- ◆ Joanne Tatem 610-631-2488

St. James' Congratulates *Father Mike*



The Reverend Doctor Michael Sowards received his Doctor of Ministry on May 12, 2017 from the School of Theology at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.



St. James'
Saturday, June 3

5:00 -7:30 PM



Eat In or Take Out available. Tickets \$13 each. Additional support is needed for tent set up Fri 6 PM; cookie drop off Sat 9:30 AM (especially snicker doodles); both shifts need Take Out Servers , Beverage Station attendance, Table Busers, and Inside Servers. Also additional coolers are needed, please drop them off by Friday night.

Thank you!

The Good Book Club

Wednesday, June 7

Platts' Hall at 6:00 PM

Treacherous Beauty,
by Mark Jacobs and Stephen H. Case

Bring along your dinner and a beverage to dine together at 6 PM, then book discussion starts at 6:30 PM . All are welcome!



POOL PARTY

Saturday, June 17

12 Noon - 4:00 PM

Sally Templeton will be hosting a parish wide picnic/pool party at her home. This picnic is open to all St. James' Parishioners. Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and Veggie burgers will be provided. There are party details posted in the church foyer along with sign-ups for attendance and for bringing picnic food to share. Remember to pack your own lawn chair and towel.

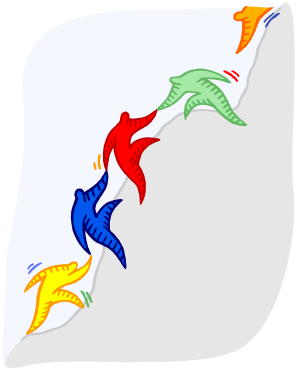
This is a no-alcohol event.



Community Garden



St. James will be sponsoring a community Garden again this year. If you would like a garden space please contact Francois Springuel (240-498-5869 / Springuel@gmail.com) and reserve your garden space today. Participation is free we only ask that if you have extra vegetables that you donate them to the Outreach house.



The Outreach House Invites Your Participation

The Outreach House is a success..... because of YOU! Thank you all for your time, your talents and your donations to our ministry. It takes a village to keep it running so smoothly. As you know, our Clients shop all year round. We don't take any breaks for the summer. If anyone would like to help you are welcome to join us. There is always something that needs to be done and our volunteers are dedicated and passionate about their service. Some help several times a week and others once a month. Maybe you would like to deliver a monthly box of food? Perhaps you are interested in picking up cupcakes from a local store and dropping them off at the Outreach House once per week? Or could it be that you own a truck and would like to volunteer to pick up and deliver the occasional piece of furniture? As the saying goes, "many hands make light work". *What could your hands be doing to help?*

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email Carole, 610-416-9870 caroleexley@comcast.net

Thank YOU!

June, July & August Soup Kitchen at St. Mary's

Cookie donations are welcome and appreciated! Simply place the cookies in the church kitchen the night before Saturday delivery and mark them "*For St. Mary's*".



June cookie: **Oatmeal Raisin**

July cookie: **Chocolate Chip**

August cookie: closed for vacation

Please contact Altheda Anduze 610-342-2010 with any questions

St. James' Golf Outing Is Coming

Keep an eye out for the Golf Outing summer date in the Bulletin and the Happenings.

It is a fun day and all skill levels are welcome!



Reflections of the St. James' ECW Ladies' Afternoon Tea



Hats and fascinators were the fashion statements of the day at St. James' ECW tea on Saturday, May 6th. ECW members and their guests were greeted in Platt's Hall by a flower covered arbor and beautifully decorated tables with pastel flower arrangements.

Ned Travis catered the event with a delicious variety of tea sandwiches, along with scones, cakes and cookies.

After ECW President Tricia Goonan greeted everyone, Jean Branco, ECW Vice-President and tea chair, introduced the following members of the tea committee: Barbara Bateman, Jill Bregovi, Deborah DiSanto, Diane Sartori, Judy Taylor, Sally Templeton, Patty Torrance, Karen Toth, and Ned Travis.



The day was filled with smiles and laughter. It was another successful St James' ECW event!

Please note upcoming ECW Meetings: Tuesday Sept 26th 7PM, Tues Dec 5th 7PM Holiday Celebration

St. James' Supports GFS Holiday House

A huge Thank You to everyone who donated books for the Holiday House used book sale. It took two trips to Cape May to deliver the unbelievable 56 boxes/totes of books that were collected. Best of all they were primarily popular fiction and nonfiction in excellent condition...high interest items.



GFS Holiday House sits on Hughes Street near the center of historic Cape May. The book sale proceeds help meet the challenge of maintaining this "last of its kind" retreat house for girls and women. To learn more about Holiday House visit: <http://www.gfsus.org/our-programs/holiday-house>. You can also follow friends of the house on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/gfsholidayhouse>.

Altar Flower Schedule

June

4th Mr. & Mrs. Dale Pennapacker
11th Mrs. Jean Beers
18th Mr. & Mrs. David Runyan
25th Mrs. Helen Scaran

July

2nd Mr. & Mrs. Mark Saylor
9th Mrs. Dee Dee McCrane
16th Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mayconich
23rd Mr. & Mrs. Mike Lochocki
30th open

August

6th Mrs. Jean Beers
13th Mr. Jeffrey Merz
20th open
27th Mrs. Marilyn Hastings



Save these September Dates

Watch Bulletin and Happenings for more information closer to the event.

SHREDDER EVENT

Saturday, September 16 - 10:00 - 12 Noon

ALL PARISH PICNIC

Saturday, September 16 - 12 Noon - 3:00 PM
fun for children and adults

Gardener's Prayer,

Karel Capek

O Lord, grant that in some way it may rain every day,

Say from about midnight until three o'clock in the morning,

But, You see, it must be gentle and warm so that it can soak in;

Grant that at the same time it would not rain on campion, alyssum, helianthus, lavender, and others which

You in Your infinite wisdom know are drought-loving plants –

I will write their names on a bit of paper if you like –

And grant that the sun may shine the whole day long,

But not everywhere (not, for instance, on the gentian, plantain lily, and rhododendron) and not too much;

That there may be plenty of dew and little wind, enough worms, no lice and snails, or mildew, and that once a week thin liquid manure and guano may fall from heaven.

Amen.



Submitted by Bill Feist

Would You Like to Get Involved?

Here is a list of opportunities to be involved in parish life at St. James. You are welcome to contact anyone listed to discuss getting involved, ask questions, or provide feedback.



Altar Guild: Members work in teams to prepare the worship area before and after services, care for altar linens and fixtures. Women *AND* men are welcome to do this! Contact Sally Templeton, 610-489-2486

Acolytes: Assist during worship service at the altar, lead the worship procession with cross and torches; anyone from grade 6 through adult is eligible. Contact the Gayle Eselby, 484-614-5312 werd13193@yahoo.com.

Choir: St. James' choir provides music for the 10 a.m. service and special services throughout the year. Contact organist Mr. Ronald Davis, 610-489-3318, or the church office.

Christian Education: Contact Fr. Mike, 215-251-8856 fr.mike6554@gmail.com.

Coffee Hour: Make coffee and provide light refreshments after the 10 a.m. service. Sign up on the bulletin board by the coffee pot for this important ministry of hospitality. Sarah Reid, reidsrock@comcast.net.

Communications: Contact Drew Beck, 484-752-8244.

ECW: All women of the church are automatically members of Episcopal Church Women. We have two meetings per year and are involved in all sorts of things around the church. Contact Tricia Goonan, 610-831-1422 waving2@aol.com

Foyer Gatherings: Parishioners meet at host homes for food and fellowship. Sign-up sheets and details are available on the bulletin board outside the church office. Contact Melanie Jackson, 610-831-1987 or Sarah Reid, 610-539-7953 reidsrock@comcast.net.

History Center: Contact Barbara Bateman, 610-489-9712 or bebateman@verizon.net.

Memorial Flowers: Contact Marilyn Hastings, 610-489-9728 or marilyn.hastings@verizon.net.

Ushers: Assist with seating, welcoming visitors, and collecting offerings during the 10 AM service. Contact Ginny Tinner, 215-256-4170 vtinner@comcast.net.

Vestry: The leadership of St. James' includes 12 parishioners elected to terms that rotate every January. Meetings, open to all St. James' parishioners, are usually the 3rd Monday of each month. Commissions meet regularly to coordinate programs and address specific concerns of the church. A list of members and contacts is on the front page of *The Epistle*.

Worship Leaders: Read scripture and prayers and/or administer the Chalice during worship. Contact Basil Varian, 610-584-9008 jbvarian@verizon.net.

Calendar Highlights

June 3	5:00 - 7:30 PM Chicken Barbecue
June 7	6:00 PM Good Book Club
June 17	12 Noon - 4:00 PM Pool Party at Sally Templeton's home
June Thursdays	7:30 PM Choir Practice
August 15	Epistle Submissions Due
September 7	7:30 PM Choir practice resumes
September 10	Church School begins
September 13	7:00 PM Adult Bible study resumes
September 16	10:00 AM - 12 Noon Shredder Event
September 16	12 Noon - 3 PM All Parish Picnic
Christ & Coffee	11 AM Thursdays will continue through the summer <i>except July 27 & September 7</i>
Vestry Meetings	7:30 PM 3rd Tuesday of the month
Adult Bible Study	7:00 PM Wednesdays starting September 13
Choir Practice	7:30 PM Thursdays starting September 7