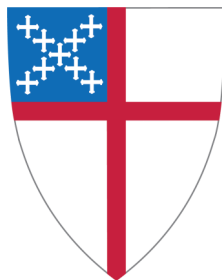




The Epistle

September 2018



St. James' Episcopal Church

knowing and serving God by serving others

Collegeville, Pennsylvania
610-489-7564

Dear friends in Christ,

It is my ardent prayer that everyone had a great and relaxing summer! Now we turn our attention to new beginnings! A new school year! A new NFL season for our Super Bowl Champs the EAGLES! A new Church program year! As the days shorten and the temperatures begin to fall, we are all faced with the hurriedness that these new beginnings bring to our lives. The demands of Children sports teams and activities as well as the myriad of Fall festivals and celebrations can make us exhausted! I encourage all of you to be intentional in your spiritual practices and to take some time and slow down and spend some time with God. Take time to see the beauty of the Fall foliage. Take in the colors of cornstalks and pumpkin patches! Take time to see the wonder of creation around you and give thanks! I believe one of the best reprieves from all the busyness is worship. Yes, I know that the Fall brings busyness to the Church also. The Choir has begun; people are making plans for our Blessing of the Animals, All Hallows Eve service, All Saints Day and of course Christmas! In the midst of all that work and preparation, please know that I appreciate each and every one of you! I firmly believe that God does not want us to be exhausted! Let the beauty of our Liturgy revive you. Let the wonder of the sacrament of Holy Communion feed your soul! Let the fellowship of our brothers and sisters give your strength. May God bless all our work in this upcoming program year and may you find the spiritual blessing you are looking for in your consistent worship of God and our Savior, God's son, Jesus Christ our Lord!

Yours in Christ,

Mike⁺

Rector

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

Vestry

- ♦ Barbara Bateman, Rector's Warden
610-489-9712
- ♦ Drew Beck, Warden-in-Transition
610-631-2488
- ♦ Joanne Tatem, People's Warden
610-631-2488
- ♦ Jon Yenney, Vestry Secretary
610-454-0179

Buildings & Grounds

- ♦ Steve Jackson 610-xxx-xxxx
- ♦ Rick Toth 610-495-6913

Communications

- ♦ Drew Beck 484-752-8244
- ♦ Peggy Spinozzi 610-489-1739

Education

- ♦ Mike Sowards 215-251-8856

Finance

- ♦ Dale Pennapacker, Treasurer
610-933-5177
- ♦ Josh Ilgen 610-454-1230

Outreach Ministries

- ♦ Jackie Dahlen 610-792-0935
- ♦ Gene Goff 610-489-0765

Parish Life

- ♦ Ned Travis 610-310-1827
- ♦ Joanne Tatem 610-631-2488

Member Ministries

- ♦ Barbara Bateman 610-489-9712

Epistle Editor

- ♦ Lisa Reinhardt 610-489-7564

Growing Fast Has its Challenges...

St. James' is growing with each passing day. We are adding new families, welcoming visitors, and saying "Welcome Back" to families that found us again. With growth comes the need to communicate all of our wonderful committees, events and ministries! Please help spread the word about your passions and commissions.

Now, more than ever, it is easy to advertise your event/activity/ministry throughout our many publications. Simply visit our website at www.stjames-episcopal.org and select "Connections" and then "Forms" in the drop down menu. Click on "Communication Request Form". The form will open as a Word Document that you can fill out. Save and email to the office at office@stjames-episcopal.org or drop a hard copy off in the church mail slots for Lisa Reinhardt. That's it!

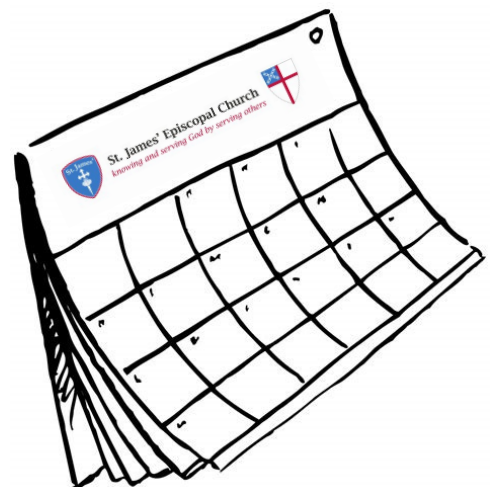
Your message will be advertised in all of our locations, as appropriate, and will be uniform throughout. The weekly bulletin, the Epistle, Facebook and our website will display your approved message and help others know what you are planning! Not sure what to write? No problem, just call the office at 610-489-7564 or email me directly at the address above and we will write it together.

Let's get communicating!



Master Calendar

As the hustle and bustle of the Fall takes root, please remember to contact Lisa Reinhardt to secure your date and location for upcoming meetings, events and activities. Once dates are confirmed, a building use form will be issued via the office to secure the room(s) and date(s). Please don't forget to submit a Communication Request Form so that the event/activity/meeting can be advertised in a timely fashion!



Please Join Us For The

GROUND BREAKING

of our New



Outreach House

A Ministry of St. James' Episcopal Church

Join Fr. Mike & The Vestry

for

Site Blessing & Groundbreaking On
the New
Outreach House Site



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2018
12 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

*Picnic-style reception immediately
following.*

Please RSVP on/or before September 1st at
office@stjames-episcopal.org

*We're
Breaking
New
Ground
and
Building
the
Future*





Help us Grow: Give Electronically!

Electronic gifts are fast and secure, and they reduce administrative costs, allowing more of every dollar to fund the important work we are called to do.

- Give anytime, anywhere to any of our ministries including:
 - Annual Pledge/Donations
 - Altar Flowers
 - And much more!
 - Capital Campaign Pledge/Donations
 - Holiday Giving
- Schedule and manage recurring donations
- Make one-time donations to special appeals

If you are interested, please visit GivePlus and select St. James' Episcopal Church. You can do this on your mobile device or computer. For more information or questions, please contact Dale Pennacker at 215-896-7424 or dalepenna@gmail.com.

CREATIVE GIVING

As we all contemplate how best to support our capital campaign, giving from regular income is a logical place to start. However, it's a reality of life for many of us that our household budgets often don't have "extra" funds waiting to be allocated. In that circumstance, we recommend thinking about **CREATIVE GIVING**.

Give Appreciated Assets

Stocks, Bonds and **Real Estate** purchased years ago frequently carry an appreciated value.

Cash Value of Life Insurance or **IRA Transfers** may also make sense to consider as gifts.

Donating these assets to St. James' may provide tax advantages that make the gift even more valuable to you and the church.

Given the critical importance of tax implications in charitable giving of this nature, you should always consult your accountant, tax attorney, or licensed financial advisor before making any decisions.

Give "Stuff"

Jewelry, Stamps, Coins, Automobiles, Baseball Cards, Artwork, Sports Memorabilia, Antiques, Musical Instruments, or the donation of other collectible items, may be the ideal way to support the capital campaign.

If you have something in mind, we can work with you to obtain an estimated value and then determine how best to convert your collectible into cash. To this end the **Creative Gifts Committee** of the Capital Campaign is planning an event to be held sometime this fall. *Watch for the announcement.*

For each of us, giving to the capital campaign is a very personal decision. As you pray on your capacity to contribute, please be sure to contemplate all of the avenues available to you and know that the church is here to help you talk through any creative giving options you might be considering.

DISCLAIMER: St. James does not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your professional tax or legal advisor to determine how this information may apply to your situation.



EDUCATION PROGRAM

knowledge, faith, and fellowship



St. James' Episcopal Church
knowing and serving God by serving others
3768 Germantown Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426
610-489-7564 www.stjames-episcopal.org



**CHURCH SCHOOL
BEGINS SEPT. 9**

**REGISTER
FOR CLASSES
TODAY!**

To register, visit:
stjames-episcopal.org/education



**Elementary
Teachers
&
Substitutes
Needed**

EMAIL LAUREN EXLEY
EDUCATION@STJAMES-EPISCOPAL.ORG



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FUEL

**A YOUTH GROUP FOR
KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE**

**JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST MEETING
(AND BRING A FRIEND!)**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND
6:00 - 8:00PM**



St. James' Episcopal Church
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3768 Germantown Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426
610-489-7564 www.stjames-episcopal.org



ignite

**a youth group for
6th - 12th grade**

faith • friends • fun

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH
6:00 - 8:30PM**

Details about our wonderful education programs and Youth Groups can be found in the Special Education Edition of the Epistle or on our website at stjames-episcopal.org.

St James' CALENDAR Highlights

September 2018 – January 2019

<u>Date</u>	<u>time</u>	<u>event</u>
6 Sept	11 – 12 Noon	Christ and Coffee Bible Study (meets Thursdays weekly in Platts Hall)
8 Sept	12 Noon	Outreach Building Ground Breaking Ceremony & Picnic-style Reception
9 Sept	10AM	First Day of Church School
12 Sept	6:30PM	Bell Choir Open House (meets Wednesdays weekly)
	7:00 PM	Adult Bible Study & Compline Begins (meets Wednesdays weekly)
13 Sept	7:30PM	Advanced Choir Open House (meets Thursdays weekly)
15 Sept	--	October/November Epistle Items Due
16 Sept	9:15 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal Begins
	11:15AM	Junior Choir Rehearsal Begins
18 Sept	7:30PM	Vestry Meeting
22 Sept	6-8PM	Fuel Youth Group (grades K through 5 th)
29 Sept	6-8:30PM	Ignite Youth Group (grades 6 th through 12 th)
6 Oct	6-8:30PM	Family Night – Activity TBD
7 Oct	9 AM – 11:15AM	Animal Sitting provided by Middle/High School
	11:15	Animal Blessing
13 Oct	6-8PM	Fuel Youth Group
16 Oct	7:30 PM	Vestry
20 Oct	6-8:30PM	Ignite Youth Group
	7:30 PM	Foyer Gathering
28 Oct	6:30-8:30PM	All Hallows Eve Service and Church Costume Party
2 Nov	12 noon—8PM	Ham and Oyster Prep
3 Nov	5-7 PM	Ham & Oyster Dinner
3 & 4 Nov	All Services	All Saints -Baptisms
15 Nov	--	December/January Epistle Items Due
17 Nov	7:30PM	Foyer
20 Nov	7:30 PM	Vestry
22-23 Nov		OFFICE CLOSED
1 Dec	6-8:30PM	Family Night – Activity TBD
2 Dec	11:15AM-12PM	All Participants Pageant Rehearsal
8 Dec	6-8PM	Fuel Youth Group
9 Dec	11:15AM-12 PM	Spoken Parts Only Pageant Rehearsal
15 Dec	6-8:30PM	Ignite Youth Group
	7:30PM	Foyer Gathering
16 Dec	11:15-12 PM	All Participants Pageant Rehearsal
18 Dec	7:30PM	Vestry Meeting
22 Dec	12-3PM	Dress Rehearsal – Nativity Pageant
23 Dec	10 AM	Nativity Pageant & Parish Advent Party
24 Dec	5 & 10:30 PM	Christmas Eve Services
	6PM	Christmas Eve Parish Dinner
25 Dec-1 Jan		OFFICE CLOSED
30 Dec		Hymn Sing
15 Jan	---	February/March Epistle Items Due
	7:30 PM	Vestry Meeting
19 Jan	6-8PM	Fuel Youth Group
26 Jan	6-8:30PM	Ignite Youth Group

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Monday: AA Meetings 7PM-9:30PM *Platts Hall*

Wednesday: DAV Meetings 7-9:30PM *Platts Hall* Adult Bible Study 7 – 8 PM Bell Choir 6:30PM

Thursday: Christ & Coffee 11AM-12 Noon *Platts Hall* Advanced Choir 7:30 PM *Choir Room*
Boy Scouts 7:30PM *Platts Hall* Cub Scouts (5th Grade) 6:30-8:30PM *Basement*

COME AND SING!

CHANCEL CHOIR

First Rehearsal

September 16 | 9:15 - 9:45 am

All 6th Grade - Adult singers welcome!
No choir experience necessary!



St. James' Episcopal Church
knowing and serving God by serving others



save the dates

MUSIC, EDUCATION, AND YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

September 2

registration deadline for church school
visit: stjames-episcopal.org/education

September 9

first day of church school classes
classes begin at 10am | PreK - 12th Grade

September 12

bell choir begins
6:30 - 8:30pm | 2nd Grade - Adult

September 13

advanced choir begins
7:30 - 8:30pm | 9th Grade - Adult

September 16

chancel choir begins
9:15 - 9:45am | 6th Grade - Adult

junior choir begins
11:15 - 11:45am | Pre-K - 8th Grade

September 22

fuel youth group
6:00 - 8:00pm | K - 5th Grade

September 29

ignite youth group
6:00 - 8:30pm | 6th - 12th Grade

COME RING WITH US!

BELL CHOIR

BEGINS SEPT. 12



St. James' Episcopal Church
knowing and serving God by serving others



PRE-KINDERGARTEN -
8TH GRADE

JUNIOR CHOIR

REHEARSES WEEKLY,
FOLLOWING THE
10AM SERVICE

FIRST REHEARSAL
SEPT. 16 | 11:15AM



St. James' Episcopal Church
knowing and serving God by serving others



St. James' Episcopal Church
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3768 Germantown Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426
610-489-7564 www.stjames-episcopal.org



Join us for
*Christ and
Coffee*

Every Thursday
11am - 12pm
in Platt's Hall



Next Epistle Submission September 15

Committee leaders please send in your
communication forms to the office
office@stjames-episcopal.org for review and
inclusion in the October/November Edition of
the Epistle by September 15th.





Parish Life will host a special coffee hour on Sept. 9th to mark the beginning of the 2018 - 2019 program year! The choir will be back and the church school classes will begin. Plan to stay for refreshments after the 10 am service to reunite with your friends, greet new members and share stories of your summer adventures.

We are also seeking coffee hour hosts for Sundays in September, October and November. Please consider taking a turn to foster this important fellowship time. Sign up sheets are posted in Platts' Hall near the coffee maker.

Contact Joanne Tatem 610-716-1816, joanne.tatem@verizon.net or Ned Travis 610-310-1828, nedptravis@gmail.com with questions.



Outreach House

A Ministry of St. James' Episcopal Church

con nec tion [kə'nekSH(ə)n] NOUN
a relationship in which a person, thing, or idea is linked or associated with something else.
the action of linking one thing with another.

The St. James' Outreach House needs CONNECTIONS! We are in search of some great fundraising ideas and would love your input. Perhaps you know of something that was successful for another organization. Do you enjoy leading a group of dedicated volunteers to meet a common goal? What other fundraisers have you donated to in the past? Did they have memorable advertising? All our thoughts and ideas can come together to make an amazing future at the Outreach House.

Any comments, questions and suggestions can be given to me in person or e-mailed. Thank you so much!

Carole Exley, Director

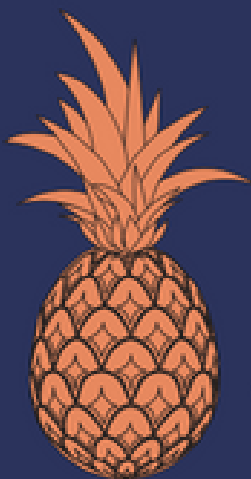
outreachhouse@stjames-episcopal.org

Foyer Gatherings



A Foyer Gathering is an informal evening of food, fellowship, and fun at a parishioner's home. It's a great way to meet and get to know other members of the congregation. Typically, participants bring an appetizer or dessert and beverage of choice to share as well as an item for the Outreach House pantry. We've designated the 3rd Saturday evening of the month for Foyer Gatherings: Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15, Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 16, Apr 13 and May 18. Now we need hosts to set the plans in motion! If you attended a Foyer in the past, please consider hosting one this year. The sign-up sheet for hosts is on the bulletin board near the office. If you haven't attended a Foyer yet, we hope you'll come to one this year!

Contact Joanne Tatem 610-716-1816, joanne.tatem@verizon.net or Ned Travis 610-310-1828, nedptravis@gmail.com with questions.



Newcomers

WELCOME BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 14 at 9:00 AM

New Comers are invited to join Fr. Mike, Deacon Lou and St. James' parish leadership in Platts Hall for a light breakfast between the 8:00 & 10:00 AM services.

WE WANT TO MEET YOU!

This informal gathering provides an opportunity for us to attach faces to names. It will also be an opportunity for you to meet many of the folks who facilitate our parish organizations and learn a bit about each group.

Children are welcome. Nursery also available if you prefer

CASSEROLE BRIGADE

Are you looking for a way to support members of St. James' parish family without making a large time commitment? The Casserole Brigade may be just the answer. This in-reach program provides occasional meals to members of the congregation at those times when life's stresses make meal preparation more than just a daily task. During the sort of stressful times we all experience now and then, illness, loss of a family member or the joyful arrival of a new baby; Casserole Brigade is there to assist.

How it works: An email notice is sent to all persons on the list announcing the need, number of persons to be fed, and any food restrictions. Members then reply to all indicating their ability to provide a meal on a specific day. It works because it is a shared ministry allowing each volunteer to help when and as their time permits.

Casserole Brigade is part of the Vestry Member Ministry Commission. To add your name to the list, please email Barbara Bateman: bebateman@verizon.net or call 610-489-9712. Also, if you are aware, at any time, of a parish family who could use a hand, please be sure to notify us.



May/June/July 2018 Vestry Highlights



May – June – July 2018 Vestry Highlights

May 12th:

- At this brief business meeting before the Vestry retreat, a motion was made to re-appoint Jon Yenney as Vestry Secretary, and Dale Pennepacker as Vestry Treasurer. Motion passed unanimously.

June 19th:

- An “e-vote” was taken since the previous meeting, approving tree work by Goff Landscaping. Some additional necessary tree work was approved at this meeting based on Goff recommendations..
- A motion was passed to give Ron Davis the honor of being named Director of Music, Emeritus.
- Miriam Robinson gave an update on electrical work being planned for the church, including replacing electrical panels and upgrading wiring where necessary.
- Dale noted that he is testing the Vanco system, which can be used for automatic donations to St. James. It is working well so far.
- Bids are being solicited for the Outreach House project.

July 17th:

- Retirement party for Ron Davis will be September 16th, at 5:30 pm.
- Funds were approved for the Outreach House groundbreaking ceremony and picnic.
- Electrical work has uncovered cloth and aluminum wiring in the Church, which will need to be replaced to bring it up to code for safety.
- A motion was approved to add replacement of deteriorating sidewalks around the Church to the existing work on the front patio and steps to the Church.
- A motion was approved to buy a deep fryer for use at St. James’ picnics and events.

You are invited to help us Celebrate
RON DAVIS' RETIREMENT

WHEN: Sunday, September 16th at 5:30 pm

WHAT: Retirement Dinner Party

PLACE: Copperfield Inn, Limerick, PA

TICKETS: \$10 individual; \$20 a family

Tickets are available from Joanne Tatem and Ned Travis. Ticket cost is subsidized by the church.

Let's make this a grand celebration in appreciation of Ron's 31 years of service as St James' organist and Music Director!

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".



September cookie: **Oatmeal Raisin**

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



We would like to thank Reed McCann
for countless hours as our Epistle
Editor! Reed did a tremendous job!
You will be missed as our Editor!
Thank you for your time & talent!

UPcoming EVENTS



St. James' Episcopal Church
knowing and serving God by serving others



BLESSING OF



THE ANIMALS

PET SITTING AVAILABLE FROM 9:30 - 11AM

Following the 10am service
Sunday | 10.07.2018 | 11:15 AM



St. James' Episcopal Church
knowing and serving God by serving others
3768 Germantown Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426



church family night

OCTOBER 6

6:00 - 8:30PM

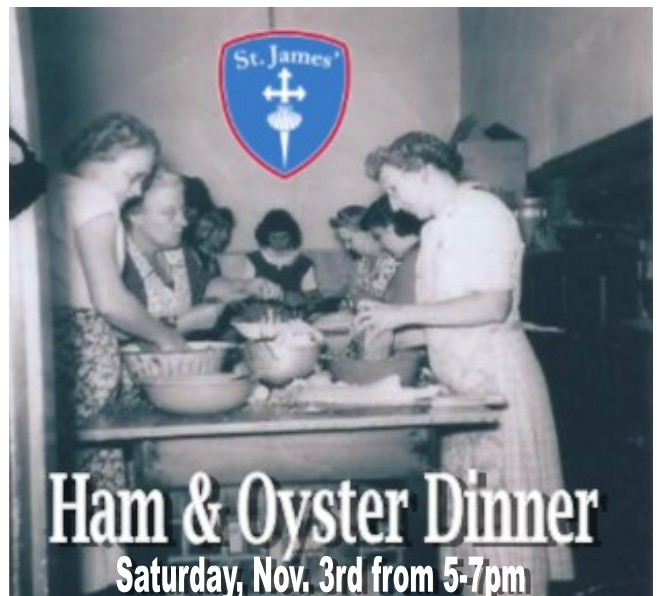
Free to play! Fun prizes!
Bring your own dinner and snacks.
All ages welcome. Invite your friends!



no tricks, just treats!

ALL HALLOWS' EVE SERVICE +
CHURCH COSTUME PARTY

Sunday, October 28
6:30 - 8:30pm



Ham & Oyster Dinner
Saturday, Nov. 3rd from 5-7pm

Do you have an event/meeting or news you would like the Parish to know? Then submit a Communications Request Form (found on our website) today and get the word out!

Questions? Please contact Lisa Reinhardt at 610-489-7564 or office@stjames-episcopal.org.

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.

Buildings & Grounds: B&G meets monthly to discuss and prioritize upkeep needs of the church. For more information please contact Steve Jackson at sfjax123@gmail.com or 610-831-1987.k

Choir (Advanced, Chancel, Junior and Bell): Contact Lauren Exley at 610-4897564 education@stjames-episcopal.org

Christian Education & Youth Groups: Contact Lauren Exley at 610-4897564 education@stjames-episcopal.org.

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. Contact Ned Travis, 610-310-1827 nedptravis@gmail.com.

Communications: The Communications Committee assists with internal and external communications to inform both our parishioners and our community of events, activities worship at St. James'. For more information contact Lisa Reinhardt, 610-489-7564 office@stjames-episcopal.org

Counters: The Counters work as a pair on a rotating schedule every Sunday immediately following the 10AM service to count, organize and record that week's giving. For more information, contact Dale Pennacker at 215-896-7424, dalepenna@gmail.com

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 Jean Branco (610)635-0399 or jeanwb1@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 mljackson821@gmail.com.

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.

Outreach House: Contact Carole Exley, Director of Operations, 610-489-3481 or outreachhouse@stjames-episcopal.org.

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 Janice Tabbut, 610-454-0179 or janicetabbut@comcast.net