

# From St. James' With Love

Corner of Lake and Main  
P.O. Box 249 Hammondsport, New York 14840  
September – October 2020 Newsletter

*St James Vision Statement:* God asks us to make His love visible in our lives and community. . . . let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:18)

## From the Rector's Corner

*How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?  
How long will you hide your face from me? Ps 13:1*

Dear Friends,

Nobody needs to tell us that 2020 has been an unusual year. I both shudder and smile when I see this image:

## 2020 APOCALYPSE

B	I	N	G	O
<del>MASSIVE EARTH QUAKES</del>	<del>MASS HYSTERIA</del>	POWERFUL STORMS	METEOR IMPACT	ALIEN INVASION
DEATH OF FIRSTBORN CHILDREN	WIDE-SPREAD FAMINE	NUCLEAR WINTER	<del>GLOBAL PANDEMIC</del>	<del>MORAL DECAY</del>
<del>CELEBRITY DEATHS</del>	SOLAR ECLIPSE 12/14/20	<del>FREE SPACE</del>	<del>SWARMS OF LOCUSTS</del>	THE DEAD BECOME ZOMBIES
FALL OF CIVILIZATION	<del>RAGING WILDFIRES</del>	HISTORIC FLOODS	WATER TURNS TO BLOOD	MASS EXTINCTION
<del>BRINK OF WORLD WAR III</del>	<del>VOLCANIC ERUPTION</del>	<del>STOCK MARKET CRASH</del>	COMING OF ANTI-CHRIST	<del>GLOBAL WARMING</del>

As humans we tend to focus on the challenges, the glass half empty, the sorrow and pain. As Christians we are invited to focus on the Covenant and the hope. Jesus has not forgotten us, forsaken us, abandoned us, dropped us on our heads, or turned his back. "For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" (Heb 13:5) Is this easy? No. But Jesus never promised us a rose garden either. When will this end? How long? Only God knows.

But in the meantime we have choices. Every day you receive a prayer in your email. Every day you can read Scripture praying for insight. Every moment of every day you can turn to Jesus and ask for help; or better yet, give thanks for the many blessings in your life. Or, as I have been suggesting on Sundays, spend some time with Jesus: meditation, prayer, wrestling, or simply listening. Finally, we can give of our time, talent, and treasure to serve those we are called to serve.

Whatever you do – hang on – because God has got you!

Peace,  
Lynne+

**Bible Study**  
**Every Monday at 4:00 (via Zoom)**  
**will return on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**

We will continue our study of the Psalms beginning with Psalm 51. Each week we read and study three Psalms. Along with prayer, discussion and reflection we often hear or sing a version of each Psalm. Everyone is invited to join us every Monday at 4 to study Scripture – no previous knowledge necessary or expected.

**Bible Trivia – the gospel of Mathew**

*answers on last page*

1. Who is generally accepted to be the author of the gospel of Matthew?  
a) Matthew   b) Peter   c) Paul   d) John
2. What was the fate of the weeds in the parable of the weeds and wheat  
a) left to rot   b) fed to swine   c) thrown in the river   d) burnt
3. Which ruler wanted to kill the baby Jesus?  
a) Tiberius   b) Philip   c) Augustus   d) Herod
4. What objects did the ten virgins take with them in the parable?  
a) Gifts   b) Lamp   c) Scrolls   d) Coins
5. What does Jesus say the meek shall inherit?  
a) Everlasting life   b) Treasure in heaven   c) the Earth   d) the Throne of God

**Women's Bible Study**  
**Wednesdays at 10:00 (via Zoom)**  
**will return on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**

Join us on Wednesdays as we take a look at another book in the Bible. We learn some background, history, and geography along with studying the Scripture. Each week we read a Chapter broken into bite-sized pieces, dig a little deeper into the layers of meaning, and then reflect on how the Scripture informs our daily life. All are invited to participate, and you don't need to own a Bible (we will provide one) or know anything about interpreting Scripture.

**Book Group**  
**First and Third Mondays of the Month at 5:30 (via Zoom)**  
**Resumes September 21<sup>st</sup>**

We will begin reading Joel ben Izzy's The Beggar King and the Secret of Happiness. This "is an altogether original true story about a storyteller who loses his voice and

believes he's lost everything. An encounter with his old teacher shows him that, in fact, he's been given a great gift. Their meetings lead him on a journey into the timeless wisdom of ancient tales - a world of beggars and kings, monks and tigers, lost horses and buried treasures - and, ultimately, toward the secret of happiness." Join us every other Monday as we read a chapter or two and discuss the surprises, and how it relates to our lives. Order the book yourself or email Joan at [Joanier1950@gmail.com](mailto:Joanier1950@gmail.com) or give her a call about ordering a copy through Amazon.

### **Shop now while planning ahead Operation Christmas Child [Shoebboxes]**

Last year St James created almost 50 shoeboxes of goodies to go to children around the world. This year the Mission Committee is inviting us to participate and now is a good time to stock up on some school supplies for your shoebox.

Remember, after the shoeboxes are handed out, Samaritan's Purse offers them a Gospel booklet in their language. They are then offered a 12 lesson discipleship class called "The Greatest Journey," where church leaders teach Bible Lessons.

In the past few years they have seen 1,100 churches planted in 54 countries as a result of the Christmas Child project. Since the program began in 1993, 168 million shoeboxes have been delivered to boys and girls in need.

The boxes, the postage donation, and more information will be available later in the Fall.

### **Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry** *Gives and needs*

In case you didn't know, Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, located at St Gabriel's is open for business on Tuesdays from 3 to 5 and Saturdays from 10:30 to noon. They are using all recommended precautions and are willing to deliver to your home, if needed.

On the other hand, for years St James has had several drives each year to collect personal care items and cleaning supplies. As we haven't done that for a while they are running low on most things [except toothbrushes and toothpaste]. They especially need laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, hand soap [they have sanitizer], and women's products. Please feel free to leave items on Rev Lynne's porch (no need to knock - I'm not answering the door right now) but you can text or email to let me know when you are going to drop off. Or Rev Lynne is happy to pick up from your porch and deliver.

### **Why (Some of) our Church Doors are Red** *from The Episcopal Handbook p. 119*

Some call it tradition; others think it's just a snappy-looking color. But the deeper reason is the firm belief that our churches are places of refuge.

As is the case with many churches, Episcopal parishes use red to let the world know what we're about. Red is the color of Christ's blood. It is the symbol of the sacrifice of the martyrs. It is the symbol of the presence of the Holy Spirit. And it marks the holy ground that lies just within. We like to think that red tells the world we're a safe

place. We're a peaceful place. we're a place of refuge. We are a place where God's presence is made clear.

Historically, churches painted their doors red to signal fleeing suspects that they were places of sanctuary (thank King Ethelbert's English law, circa 600 C.E.). Today we know that the world is a scary place, full of people who are looking for places to find peace and forgiveness. While many people look at traditional churches as daunting and inhospitable, we hope that our red doors tell a different story, even if circumstances require they be locked from time to time!

Many people come to the Episcopal Church from other traditions, and some have had bad church experiences that have left them scared or leery about God and God's people. We know that churches are not clubs for saints but hospitals for sinners. So just as hospitals display a red cross, we also like to announce that we are a place of healing and restoration. At our best, our parishes help the wounded put their lives back together, provide comfort in time of need, and the doors open wide to welcome people in.

### **Hammondsport Youth Group** *undergoing transition*

This is the seventh school year that St James has co-hosted the Hammondsport Youth Group and we are making some changes both in leadership and in format. As always, we appreciate your prayers and support! And we will let you know how you can participate our Youth.

First gathering will be Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> when we participate in the STEPS 2020 walk that supports Catholic Charities and Turning Point. Feel free to join the St James team, or to donate. More information will be coming as the plans come together.

### **Community Blessing of the Animals at St James** **St Francis Day, Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

*We will be masked and invite you to do the same* 😊

Every day our pets bless us with unconditional love and joy. They are our companions and offer so much more than we can give. On the Sunday closest to October 4<sup>th</sup>, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, people of faith around the world host events where animals are blessed. This year St James will sponsor a blessing of pets on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Why a pet blessing? It's an opportunity to have God bless our furry, and hairy, and scaly friends – both our living friends, and our little one's stuffed friends. It's an opportunity to invite our neighbors and the community to celebrate all of God's creation with the pets we love.

How does it work? There will be a brief service and prayer followed by the individual blessings. If your pet is good on a leash, great! Or in a cage, great! If your pet is not as eager to encounter many others, stand to the side and I will come to you. If your pet is too large, or doesn't travel well, perhaps a horse or a dolphin, you can bring a symbol of that pet for the blessing. Invite a neighbor or friend to bring their pet and come with you.

### **All Saints' Day – in Remembrance**

All Saints' Day Celebrated Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. We will have special music and flowers to commemorate this occasion and will read the names of your dear departed. Please give the names to Rev Lynne by phone, email, or send a note with your pledge. Reminders will be announced a few weeks prior to November 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **PRAYER LIST**

Julie and Ben, Jean, Pam, Alan, Carole, Betty and Richard, Adrienne, Kevin, Janet, Darlene and John, Tammy, Peggy and George, Bob, Jackie, Jen, Jim L, Brian, Dan, Ellen, Marietta and Jim, baby Aliza and family, Paige and Michael, Michael S., Steven, Alicia, Jennifer and family, Doug, Tammy S., Jerry, Phil, Wendell, James, John, Amy, Lindsey, Hollie, Shawn, Curt, Jean F., Muriel, Charlie, Raymond, Rene, Heather, Eva, the Food Pantry, students and teachers, first responders, those suffering from addiction, and those in the military, and those who mourn.

Answers: 1. a) Matthew; 2. d) Burnt; 3. d) Herod, 4. b) Lamp, 5. c) the Earth

#### **Calendar**

- ***Compline every night at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom – email Rev Lynne for info***
- Mon, Sept 7<sup>th</sup> Labor Day – the Office is closed
- Mon, Sept 14<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 Bible Study
  - 5:00 South East District meeting (via Zoom)
- Wed, Sept 16<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 Women's Bible Study
- Sun, Sept 20<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 Youth Group STEPS Adults invited to walk as well
- Mon, Sept 21<sup>st</sup> – 4:00 Bible Study – 5:30 Book Group
- Tue, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> – online PreConvention meeting (time TBD)
- Wed, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> – 10:00 Women's Bible Study
- Mon, Sept 28<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 Bible
- Wed, Sept 30<sup>th</sup> – 10 Women's Bible Study
- Sun, Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – 10:30-11:30 Blessing of the Animals
- Mon, Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 Bible Study, 5:30 Book Group
- Wed, Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – 10 Women's Bible Study
- Mon Oct 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup> Rev Lynne on Continuing Education training
- Mon, Oct 19<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 Bible Study, 5:30 Book Group
- Wed, Oct 21<sup>st</sup> – 10:00 Women's Bible Study
- Mon, Oct 26<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 Bible Study
- Wed, Oct 28<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 Women's Bible Study
- October 31<sup>th</sup> – Diocese of Rochester Convention
- Sun, Nov 1<sup>st</sup> – All Saints' Day

September 2020

<b>Date</b>	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
Sept 6	C. Skinner		S. Pulver M. White		
Sept 13	K. Derr		N. Folts D. Barney		
Sept 20	M. White		S. Young K. Derr		
Sept 27	N. Forenz		A. Edmister L. Graulich		

October 2020

<b>Date</b>	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
Oct 4	C. Skinner		K. Packard S. Pulver		
Oct 11	L. Nichiporuk		N. Folts D. Barney		
Oct 18	M. White		S. Young A. Edmister		
Oct 25	N. Forenz		L. Graulich K. Packard		