

From St. James' with Love

Corner of Lake and Main
P.O. Box 249
Hammondsport, New York
607.569.2647
March-April 2015

From the Rector's Corner

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance, by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. (BCP p. 265 Ash Wednesday)

As we are deep into winter, and entering the season of Lent it is hard to imagine that Spring will ever come, yet it does, year after year. This winter has seemed particularly harsh, and at the same time amazingly beautiful. That's how I envision the season of Lent. We are invited into the wilderness, to be tempted by Satan, yet fed by the angels. We listen for ways that we are known as beloved, and ways that keep us distracted and going down an unfruitful path. This is a time of renewal, although it can seem like a time of emptiness. What I know as I look at that patch of dirt in my yard (at least when the wind blows the snow away and we have a bit of sun) that daffodils are preparing to spring forth and blossom. I wonder what spiritual practice is preparing you to spring forth and blossom? There are certainly many choices.

I hope you enjoy reading this Newsletter, and looking at all that is happening at St James. We are hosting the South East District meeting, and the South East District Clergy meeting in March, making our voices, beliefs, needs, and opinions known to the wider church. We hosted one of the Noonday Ecumenical Services and Luncheons, and will have a second chance to do so this Lent. We are having a Lenten Study on the Gospel of Mark, as well as the usual Monday Bible Study, and the every-other week Book Group. We will have the usual Holy Week, and Easter Services, and those who wish to participate can attend the Sunrise Easter Service at 6:30 in the morning at the Lake.

As we look closer there have been so many great events in the past months, and they will continue in the months ahead. The spaghetti/lasagna dinner as well as the chicken and biscuit dinner were delicious, and a lot of fun. Not to mention the proceeds that help fund all our programs and mission. Cecil is using his gifts to offer some thoughts on the hymns, and is seeking some artwork for the weekly bulletin cover. And if you look closely at the back of the bulletin, we now have a QR code. If you don't know what that is, no worries. If you do, enjoy! I have also asked a few parishioners to offer their thoughts and hope to include articles from some of you each month. If you are willing to share your gifts in writing, or would like to share your faith journey here, just let me know.

May this season brings you new awareness of God's presence in your lives, and may you renew your enthusiasm to follow Jesus.

Peace,
Lynne +

Vestry Visioning

St James Vestry will meet on Saturday, March 14th from 9:00 until 3:00 to vision, dream, and plan for our future. We will start by giving a fresh look at our Vision and Mission, which usually takes a lot longer than one could imagine. We will then look at all of our programs and see where we need to make changes, or dreams that we have for new programs. We will then bring our thoughts and ideas to the wider parish for further reflection and action. If you have ideas, or concerns, please feel free to give your thoughts to Rev Lynne, or our Wardens, Leah Nichiporuk or Terry Channing.

Prayer List

Ted	Michele	Katie	Sue
Lori	Dylan	The Howard Family	Connie
Stuart	Barb	Cecil	Nancy
Eva	George	Doug	Donna
Peter	Marion	Angie	John
Bob	Kristin	Winnie	Hollie
Sheryl	Bonnie	Ginny	Brenda
Muriel	Denny	Jim	Gary
Ruth	Anissa	Bill	Joe
Peter	Georgia	Betty	Adrienne
Nate			

The Church of Kisima in Kenya-Those who suffer from addictions-Those who serve in the military especially Vance, Zack, Lael, and Grayson

Announcements

Prayer Lists – Did you know that St James has an email Prayer Group that holds all prayer requests in confidence? If you wish to add someone to the confidential list, or to add someone to the bulletin, or to offer updates, or thanksgiving for prayers answered, please contact Rev Lynne. Also contact Rev Lynne with names and addresses of our military so we can keep in touch.

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry – gives thanks for the weekly basket of food and other items. They would like to remind us that cleaning products, and hygiene products (toothpaste, deodorant...) are always needed as well as the food items.

Dinners and Bazaar

Nancy and Floyd announced after the Annual Meeting that they need to give up Coordinating (and doing the majority of the prep) for the dinners and Bazaar, and will continue to be available to offer suggestions, to decorate, and to support these important ministries. Please join me in thanking them both for the many years of delicious dinners, and amazing Bazaars. And then please consider how you can contribute to these activities in the future. If you are a planner and would like to coordinate one of these events, please let us know. In the meantime, we give thanks for the many hands that contributed to the Spaghetti/Lasagna dinner which raised \$780! And then amazing Chicken and Biscuit dinner - stay tuned for the totals on that dinner.

Book Group

The Book Group is enjoying WALKING THE BIBLE -- A Journey by Land Through the Five Books of Moses when it is not too snowy and cold to meet. We are not quite half-way through the book, and it is a fun read. If you did not get a chance to order the book and would like to join in at home or with the group, contact Joanie. We meet every other Monday at 6:00.

Our Wardens

Let us give thanks to Jim Grillo for his years of service, especially as Sr. Warden in the period of transition. Thank you, Jim. And now Jim, we hope you enjoy at least a year off of the Vestry! We give thanks for Sr. Warden Leah Nichiporuk, who continues to offer her wisdom and experience, as well as her work with the Altar Guild, flowers, luncheons, and much more behind the scenes expertise than you could imagine. We welcome our new Jr. Warden Terry Channing, who will be coordinating buildings and grounds, and helping to create a manual that outlines the many moving parts of St James. If you notice any maintenance issues, please contact Terry first. He will be the point person to coordinate how to handle buildings and grounds situations. What we found earlier this winter is that we were misdiagnosing a potentially serious maintenance problem as we had so many people pitching in to help, that no one person knew the scope of the situation. Thank you for all your help and knowledge, and let's run it by Terry so that we have that one person who is aware of all aspects of the situations.

Bulletins

First, a huge thank you to Barbara! She has created our bulletins week after week and year after year. Thank you, Barb. And thank you to Jim Grillo who has, and will continue to fill in when necessary, and did for several months in the interim period. Thank you, Jim. And we thank Connie Van Houten for her willingness to take on this responsibility. As you may have noticed, the paper, the color, and the font have changed. A new look for a new season. We give thanks to Cecil who is going to add some offerings on the music while he is not able to physically attend church; his knowledge and musical wisdom, and whimsy, will be with us. Cecil is also exploring art work and drawings for the cover of the bulletins. What no one person seems to know is all the pieces that go into creating the bulletin (thank you Jim and Barb for sharing your knowledge). So pardon our goofs as we try to keep all the pieces together.

Directory

The 2015 St James directory is now available, and yes, there are mistakes. Please find one copy per family in the back of the church, and as you find the errors, let us know so that version 2015.2 can be more accurate. Thank you to all who have made corrections, and send their photos. We have already received comments about how helpful it is to have the pictures to help us remember who is who, and to have addresses handy to send out cards and greetings.

Lenten Study

The five-part Lenten study at St James is on the Gospel of Mark. Mark is the Gospel we are using throughout this Church year, Year B. These five weeks of Lent offer us an opportunity to become familiar in new ways, and engage in fresh ways with Mark, the shortest of the Gospels.

The first week we will explore the Gospel of Mark: who wrote it, when was it written, what are some of the themes of Mark, and how does Mark differ from the other Gospels. Weeks two through four we will begin to engage with the Gospel through prayer and a Bible Study. We will take a different theme from Mark each week, study, reflect, and then pray with the theme. The final week we will read through the Gospel of Mark in one sitting employing a Reader's Theater.

Emeritus House

Several of us go to Emeritus House to visit Ruth Clark and other friends at Emeritus House and to hold a monthly Service with music and reserved Sacrament. The residents are delighted to listen or sing along with favorite hymns, and help by reading the readings. On Thursday, January 22nd we had around twenty people who attended the service. You would be welcome to come along with us and sing, or read, or serve, or just enjoy the company. Please join us if you can on Thursday, March 26th, and Thursday, April 23rd at 2:30.

Fare-Wells

It is with great sadness that we have said goodbye to three more of our friends and family. Arlene Santus died in December, and was interred at Pleasant Valley in a private ceremony. There will be a Memorial Service on Wednesday, March 18th at 11:00 at St James. We will also have a Memorial Concert later this year, inviting singers and musicians from the community to join us as we remember Arlene, Dick, and others who have contributed to our music program.

We said farewell to Tom Packard on Saturday, January 17th. We were blessed to have so many people gather to say goodbye, and to have some amazing singers who offered solos during the service.

And we said goodbye to David Burch. There was a Memorial Service in Rochester and we will include thanks for his contribution to church music at the Memorial Concert later this year.

May the souls of all the departed rest in peace, and rise in glory.

St James Youth Group Winter-Spring 2015

It is challenging that we have had to limit the youth activities so far this winter due to weather and severe cold, as well as the very busy schedules of our youth. We are committed to offering the best opportunities we can to our youth, and look forward to rest of the events for this school year. The group, under the guidance of Gladys Palmer, will meet about once a month, play a game or two, learn a little about their faith in preparation for Confirmation in December, and then have some fun! As you can see, every other month we will engage in a service activity, and then on the other month go out into the world and enjoy the creation (in the form of snow, water, and Creation Camp). If you would like to attend, just show up! If you would like to participate as an adult, contact Gladys or Rev Lynne.

Many thanks to Gladys, our Youth, and the adults who made the Pancake supper a success, raising \$231 for our youth ministry.

March 7th 1pm-3pm

We will be making (and eating) cookies.

May 2nd 1-3pm

Open – talk about creation camp.

June 6th 1-3pm

Inside and outside Clean up at church.

July 4th Roseland water park 9am -5pm

Please contact **Gladys Palmer 607-368-3779** for more information

The Ecumenical Youth Group meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday from 3:30-5:00

All youth in 7th through 12th grade are welcome to join us at the Methodist Church in Hammondsport for a new youth group. There will be food, games, music, and discussion. Based on the Young Life curriculum, the first two meetings have been a lot of fun! Want more information? Talk with Rev Lynne, or drop by and see for yourself.

Children

Join us every Sunday morning, week in and week out, for Sunday School. All ages welcome!

Rev Lynne's Holy Land Trip

Rev Lynne announced on her birthday her determination to get to the Holy Land in 2015, and instantly an opportunity presented itself to go with a church group from April 28th to May 13th. Lynne will be using her continuing education time and funds to go on this once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage. If you want to know more about all the sites, let her know. If you want to give her prayers to take to the Wailing Wall, let her know. Prayers for safety, and for wisdom, are appreciated. Pastor Gary will be Preaching and Presiding on the two Sundays that Rev Lynne will be away

How We “Do” Lent

Cecil VanHouten

I have a friend I've known since my earliest days in broadcasting. Jim is a great, knowledgeable guy with one defining characteristic - he does everything fast. He eats fast, drives fast, texts fast - he's wired to get 'it' done and move on to the next thing asap. Well, speed is good when you're tracking down a digital audio problem during a live show but in other aspects of life? Perhaps not so much.

For years, even as a cradle Episcopalian, I kind of breezed through Lent. Give something up, avoid meat on Fridays, muddle through the worst hymns of any church season - just try to get through it as quickly as possible. Then, when Easter arrived, things would get back to normal. It was about ten or fifteen years ago that I realized I was "Jimming" Lent. I wasn't engaging in its beauty; I was trying to rush through it so fast, I never immersed myself in its richness.

The authors I was reading at the time, Martin Smith and Henri Nouwen, helped me realize the importance of slowing down and looking for the deeper meaning of Lent, a hard but very necessary season. Just as Christ spent forty days in self-denial, prayer and anguished thought, we are called to do the same. It's a transformative process and it will not be hurried along. But if you engage with it, its impact will be strong and it will change you. I believe it will bring you closer to God.

Now, I need to get ahold of Jim and tell him to slow down. I don't want him to miss anything.

Journeys

Joan Rogerson

The first time that I entered St. James' Church I was carried in as an infant, unaware of what was about to happen to me. I expect that the last time I enter St. James' Church I will also be carried in, my body unaware of what is happening, but my soul hopefully will be in another place; A place with the ultimate awareness of the love of God.

In between those times I am on a journey. My parents started me on that journey by taking me to church and to Sunday School. I thank them for that. As I grew into my late teens and twenties I drifted away, not rejecting the idea of Jesus and God, but not allowing worship a place in my "busy" life. My early foundation was there though, the seeds planted and waiting for further watering.

Since I was still affiliated with St. James', though seldom attended, I was approached and asked to help with Sunday School and the nursery. The seeds started to get watered. I eventually went through a reaffirmation of my faith which is like a second confirmation. This time it was my choice. I knew that I needed the relationship with God that he wants to have with us. I needed his strength, his love, and his knowledge. I am not sure how people who do not have that relationship get through life. They try to substitute other things, but nothing else really works.

As I said, it is a journey, a process that keeps going till you die. I do better some days than others-or even some minutes than others. I mess up, a foot slips off the path, but I know God is encouraging me and helping me along the path-forgiving my messing up and my slipping.

Attending St. James' helps me along the path. The liturgy of our church speaks to my soul. The beauty and pageantry of our church and service seem to me to honor the "power and glory" of God. The people of our church are caring and and although our journeys are not all the same, everyone here seems willing to help with each other's journey-adding their encouragement to God's and cheering each other on.

Funeral Planning

Funeral planning is a topic that most people avoid at all costs, understandably. If you have already made plans, and have a copy available, could you make sure to send it to the church office so we can have it on file in case the need arises. If you would like more information on how to plan your service, or the service for someone you love, contact Rev Lynne and we can get you more information. If you would like to meet to talk through what this means, and if you might want to plan at some point in the future, contact Rev Lynne at 607.569.2647 or email at rectorstjames14840@gmail.com.

Episcopal Night at Frontier Field

Save the date for Redwings Baseball, followed by the RPO and fireworks on Friday, July 17th. Last year there were about 200 people who attended. Friends are welcome. More information to follow.

Upcoming Dates

- *March 2nd South East District Meeting at St James 6:00 p.m. (Delegates need to attend)*
- *March 4th Noonday Ecumenical Service at the Methodist Church – luncheon to follow*
- *March 4th 5:30 p.m. Lenten Study at St James*
- *March 5th 9:30 a.m. SE District Clergy Meeting at St James*
- *March 7th 1:00-3:00 St James Youth Group to make cookies!*
- *March 8th, Spring your Clocks forward an hour*
- *March 11th Noonday Ecumenical Service at St Gabriel's, Rev Lynne to preach + luncheon*
- *March 11th 5:30 p.m. Lenten Study at St James*
- *March 14th 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Vestry Visioning Day*
- *March 18th 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Arlene Santus*
- *March 18th 12:00 p.m. Noonday Ecumenical Service at Presbyterian Church + luncheon*
- *March 18th 5:30 p.m. Lenten Study at St James*
- *March 19th 9:30 Women's Breakfast at the Savona Diner*
- *March 25th Noonday Ecumenical Service at St James – luncheon to follow*
- *March 26th 2:30 p.m. Emeritus Service*
- *Sunday, March 29th is Palm Sunday*
- *Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00 Maundy Thursday with Eucharist*
- *Friday, April 3rd at Noon Ecumenical Stations of the Cross at St James*
- *Sunday, April 5th 6:30 a.m. Ecumenical Sunrise Service at the Lake*
- *Easter Sunday, April 5th 9:00 Festive Eucharist*
- *April 8th 7:00 p.m. Vestry*
- *April 16th 9:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast at Chat-A-Whyle*
- *April 23rd 2:30 p.m. Emeritus Service*
- *April 28th Rev Lynne departs for the Holy Land*
- ****May 2nd Smorgasbord Dinner 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.****

Lay Minister Schedule

<i>DATE</i>	<i>CHALICE</i>	<i>ACOLYTE</i>	<i>READERS</i>	<i>USHERS</i>
March 1	J. Grillo	C. VanHouten	C. VanHouten J. Grillo	N. Forenz P. Forenz
March 9	M. White	J. Grillo	M. White J. Grillo	J. Piersons M. Piersons
March 15	N. Forenz	M. White	L. Graulich A. Edmister	R. Battaglia C. Battaglia
March 22	L. Nichiporuk	C. Skinner	W. Torp C. VanHouten	J. Grillo L. Grillo
March 29 Palm Sunday	C. VanHouten	J. Grillo	C. VanHouten J. Grillo	M. White A. Edmister
April 2 Maundy Thurs	M. White			
April 3 Good Friday	N. Forenz			
April 5 Easter Sunday	J. Grillo	C. Skinner	L. Graulich J. Grillo	N. Forenz P. Forenz
April 12	C. Skinner	C. VanHouten	M. White C. VanHouten	J. Piersons M. Piersons
April 19	M. White	J. Grillo	W. Torp J. Grillo	R. Battaglia C. Battaglia
April 26	L. Nichiporuk	M. White	L. Graulich M. White	J. Grillo L. Grillo

If you cannot serve at the time you are scheduled, please find a substitute

