

From St. James' with Love

Corner of Lake and Main
P.O. Box 249
Hammondsport, New York
607.569.2647 January-February 2016

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

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? (Is 43:19a)
And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." (Rev 21:5a)

Yes, we are entering the year 2016, and yes, it hardly seems possible that another year has gone by so quickly. And yes, the years do go by more quickly . . . But what strikes me this year is the "new" part of New Year. We live in a society where "new" is perceived as better. People line up to get the "new" iphone, or to see the "new" Star Wars movie. We often see old homes and buildings torn down to make room for "new" construction. I can't read the news without seeing, "The new poll shows that Americans . . .," or "New study reveals Americans . . .," or "New research shows . . ." Just when we thought we knew what we wanted, or knew what was good for us, or knew how we were going to vote, something "new" comes along to change our mind again.

It seems there are several basic ways to understand the word "new". New can mean something that had not existed before and now it has been made or discovered or created. Another definition of "new" is something that already exists, but now is seen or experienced in a different way. Scripture invites us to see God working in the world, sometimes creating anew from nothing, or from chaos, and other times God works in us so we have a newness of perception. "A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." (Ez 36:26) I know there are many days that I pray for that new heart, a heart of flesh that perceives the world through the heart of God.

So maybe this New Year we can shift our focus just a bit from making resolutions we can't keep, or striving to get that new gadget, and turn once again to Jesus Christ. **Renewing** our spiritual practices, digging deeper into the Scriptures, or keeping a journal of the ways that the Holy pops into our awareness and our lives.

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Cor 5:17)

Lynne +

Prayer List - Starting Anew

Starting mid-January we are going to begin a fresh prayer list on the back of the bulletin and in our Prayers of the People. We know that on our current prayer list there have been some thanksgivings, and some losses, and some people have fallen out of our awareness. We are going to remove all names, so please contact Rev Lynne (at 607-569-2647 or rectorstjames14840@gmail.com) if you wish to add a name to the prayer list. The new list will be placed on the bulletin, and in our prayers on Sunday, January 24th.

Christmas Stocking

This year we tried something new at St James and were overwhelmed by the generosity of spirit we have at St James! We knew of some students in need of Christmas care, and found this way to give from the heart. In total we were able to assist five families (11 children) to have gifts under the tree. We were indeed able to give five families a Merry Christmas.

St James 'socks' it to the Bath VAMC

Jane Aeschbacher and husband Paul were active volunteers at the Bath VA, at St. James and at the Presbyterian Church. After Jane's death, in 1999, with Paul's blessing, St. James continued to collect white socks for the veterans, in Jane's memory. Including this year we have gifted the Bath VA veterans with 2094 of socks! Dry, healthy feet are important to all, critical to our veterans and very much appreciated. We collected 317 pairs this year 2015!

St James Annual Apple Pie Sale

On November 21st we gathered together with volunteers new and old to make some delicious apple pies. Through many hours of toil and laughter, we sold an amazing 150 pies, bags of filling, and bags of peeled apples. Many thanks to Jeff and Kathy Kennedy who donated the apples, Bruce and Mary White who donated the remaining ingredients, and the many helpers who prepped the room, peeled apples, created the filling, made the dough, rolled the dough, crimped the edges, wrapped the pies, served as cashier, made phone calls, made lunch, and cleaned up. We raised about \$1200 for the St James Mission fund.

Spaghetti/Lasagna Supper

Saturday, January 16th 4:00 – 6:00

Nancy and Floyd French and Jim Grillo graciously invite you to attend the Annual Spaghetti/Lasagna Supper at St James in the Parish Hall. Right now there are sign-up sheets so you can volunteer, in the meantime, get the word out and invite your family, friends, and neighbors for a treat they won't want to miss!

Reports for Annual Meeting due January 13th

Please send your completed Report to Lynne no later than Wednesday, January 13th so we can make them available to the congregation on Sunday, the 17th of January. It is our hope that people will have the chance to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest, and then at Annual Meeting have the opportunity to ask clarifying questions, and give thanks for all we have done in 2015.

Annual Meeting January 24th

St James Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 24th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The reports will be distributed on Sunday, January 17th by email and in print for everyone, and will include the list of nominees for open positions. The Annual Meeting will be Called to Order immediately prior to the opening hymn. Service will continue as usual with the Rector's report included in the sermon. After the closing hymn we will continue the meeting in the Sanctuary, with Voting, Financial Reports, and an opportunity to ask questions about any of the Committee Reports. Our hope is that everyone will stay for the brief meeting prior to adjourning for Coffee Hour.

Ash Wednesday and Lent

Beginning on Ash Wednesday we will engage in the Hammondspport tradition of sharing a Noonday Service and a light lunch every Wednesday at Noon. On Ash Wednesday we will worship at the Methodist Church, Rev Lynne will preach, there will be Imposition of Ashes, and a light lunch. There will also be a service at St James at 7:00 p.m. with Imposition of Ashes. Subsequent Wednesdays we will have Noonday worship at St James (February 17th), the Presbyterian Church (February 24th), St James (March 2nd), and St Gabriel's (March 9th), the Methodist Church (March 16th).

Lenten Series

Wednesdays February 17th – March 16th from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Throughout Lent, beginning on February 17th at we will engage in a Lenten Reflection and study using: Lent for Everyone, Luke, Year C by N. T. Wright. As you recall, this is the year of Luke, and we will be reading through this Gospel throughout the year. Lent for Everyone is a daily reflection book that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the Saturday after Easter, inviting you to read a passage of the Gospel, a short reflection by N. T. Wright, and then a few questions to ponder, or a prayer. I invite you to read along whether you participate in the weekly discussion or not. *I encourage you to have a journal or notepad handy throughout Lent and spend a few minutes each day writing down your reflections and questions.* We will gather to discuss for discussion each week. You can order a copy through your favorite book dealer, or see Joan to order a copy from Amazon.

Family Game Night

Saturday, February 13th from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

This is going to be a great family night for everyone from St James, and all our neighbors! We are hosting a Family Game Night that will include pizza and drinks, and is appropriate for all ages. We'll have games for younger children in the Sunday School room, and games for youth and adults in the Parish Hall. All children under age 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. We hope this will be the first of many opportunities to come together for fun as a community

Book Group

2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

In January the Book Group will start reading: Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom by John O'Donohue. O'Donohue is a poet, priest, philosopher, and scholar who invites us to enter the realm of the Irish imagination and spirituality. "Anam Cara, Gaelic for "soul friend," the ancient teachings, stories, and blessings of Celtic wisdom provide such profound insights on the universal themes of friendship, solitude, love, and death as: Light is generous; The human heart is never completely born; Love as ancient recognition; The body is the angel of the soul; Solitude is luminous; Beauty likes neglected places; The passionate heart never ages; To be natural is to be holy; Silence is the sister of the divine; Death as an invitation to freedom."

Brookdale

Several of us go to Brookdale (formerly Emeritus House) to visit Ruth Clarke and other friends, 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, December 17th the residents appreciated the opportunity to sing Christmas Carols, and the chance to participate in a worship service. Please join us if you can on Thursday, January 28th, and Thursday, February 25th at 2:30.

Publicity Volunteer or Evangelism?

We are looking for someone to help us get the word out, and keep the word out about the great things we are doing at St James. Tom's great at keeping the webpage up to date, when he is informed of the many happenings. Rev Lynne tries to keep the Facebook page up to date. Nancy is great about advertising the Suppers and Bazaar. What we have noticed is that we sometimes forget to advertise events through the radio Community Calendar and by putting out the signboard: such as the Apple Pie Sale, the Christmas Sing-a-Long, and the Christmas Eve service. Are you someone who might enjoy helping us getting the word out? Contact Rev Lynne if you would like more information.

Facebook Page

In case you haven't noticed St James has a Facebook page known as St James Hammondsport. "Like" us to see the latest pictures and reminders of upcoming events. We continue to maintain the webpage that also has photos as well as newsletters, history, calendar, etc.

Children

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

The Hammondsport 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 for a the Hammondsport youth group. Each time we meet we enjoy some good snacks, play a few games, learn a few new names, sing some songs, and hear an inspirational message. See Karen if you would like to help with snacks, or come by to give some of your time to the youth of St James and the Hammondsport Community.

Prayer List

Ted	Michele	Katie	Sue
Lori	Dylan	The Howard Family	Connie
Stuart	Barb	Joy	Nancy
Eva	Tom	Doug	Donna
Peter	Marion	Angie	John
Bob	Kristin	Patsy	Hollie
Sheryl	Bonnie	Ginny	Brenda
Muriel	Denny	Jim	Gary
Ruth	Anissa	Bill	Joe
Peter	Georgia	Betty	Adrienne
Carol	Esther	Kyle	Helen
Jake	Elizabeth & Robert Stratton		

The Church of Kisima in Kenya-Those who suffer from addictions-Those who serve in the military especially Vance, Tony, Zack, Merle, Scott, and Jeffrey.

Pregnancy Resource Center

The Pregnancy Resource Center of the Valleys holds its annual fund drive in January, with the ingathering on January 24th. If you would like to contribute, collect a baby bottle at the back of the Sanctuary, or use any other container you have at home and collect coins (or folding money). Checks or change (marked for Pregnancy Resource Center) can be placed in the collection plate on January 24th, or you can make a donation directly to "Pregnancy Resource Center of the Valleys" and mailed to: PRC of the Valleys, Inc, 22 Liberty St, Bath, New York 14810

Upcoming Dates

- *Hammondsport Youth Group* – January 10th at the Methodist Church 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- *Book Group* – Monday, January 11th at 6:00 – Chapter 1 The Mystery of Friendship
- *Annual Meeting Reports due*—January 13th for distribution on Sunday, January 20th.
- *Vestry Meeting* – (brief) January 13th
- *Spaghetti – Lasagna Dinner* on January 16th from 4:00 – 6:00 Invite your friends!
- *Martin Luther King Day* – Office is closed, no Bible Study
- *Women's Breakfast* – January 21st at Crooked Lake in Hammondsport
- *Annual Meeting* – Sunday, January 24th
- *Hammondsport Youth Group* – January 24th at the Methodist Church 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- *Book Group* – Monday, January 25th at 6:00 –Chapter 2 Toward a Spirituality of the Senses
- *Brookdale* – January 28th at 2:30
- *Book Group* – Monday, February 8th at 6:00 –Chapter 3 Solitude is Luminous
- *Ash Wednesday* – February 10th Noonday Service at the Methodist Church (lunch to follow)
 - 7:00 Service at St James with Imposition of Ashes
- *Vestry* – February 10th – to begin at 7:30 following the Service
- *Family Game Night* – Saturday, February 13th 5:30-8:00 – all are welcome! Pizza & games!
- *Hammondsport Youth Group* – February 14th at the Methodist Church 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- *Lenten Series* – Wednesday, February 17th Noonday Service at St James (lunch to follow)
 - *Lenten Study* – 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall (see above for more info)
- *Women's Breakfast* – February 18th at Mom's Diner in Savona
- *Annual Meeting* – Sunday, January 24th
- *Book Group* – Monday, February 22nd at 6:00 –Chapter 4 Work as a Poetics of Growth
- *Lenten Series* – Wednesday, February 24th Noonday Service at Presbyterian?
 - *Lenten Study* – 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall (see above for more info)
- *Brookdale* – February 25th at 2:30
- *Hammondsport Youth Group* – February 28th at the Methodist Church 3:30 – 5:

Lay Minister's Schedule January–February

If you can not serve at your appointed time-please find a substitute.

Date	Chalice	Acolyte	Readers	Ushers	Sunday School
Jan 3rd	J. Grillo	C. Vanhouten	W. Torp C. VanHouten	R. Battaglia C. Battaglia	D. Barney
Jan 10th	N. Forenz	J. Grillo	K. Packard J. Grillo	C. Manikas P. Manikas	L. Nichiporuk
Jan 17th	L. Nichiporuk	N. Forenz	W. Torp C. VanHouten	J. Grillo L. Grillo	J. Rogerson
Jan 24th	C Vanhouten	C. Skinner	K. Packard J. Grillo	J. Piersons M. Piersons	M. White
Jan 31st	C. Skinner	L. Nichiporuk	L. Graulich A. Edmister	N. Forenz P. Forenz	E. Kowulich-Covel

Date	Chalice	Acolyte	Readers	Ushers	Sunday School
Feb 7th	J. Grillo	C. Vanhouten	W. Torp C. VanHouten	R. Battaglia C. Battaglia	J. Derr
Feb 14th	N. Forenz	J. Grillo	A. Edmister J. Grillo	J. Piersons L. Piersons	D. Noteware
Feb 21st	L. Nichiporuk	N. Forenz	W. Torp C. VanHouten	J. Grillo L. Grillo	D. Barney
Feb 28th	C Vanhouten	C. Skinner	L. Graulich J. Grillo	J. Piersons M. Piersons	L. Nichiporuk

