

# From St. James' With Love

Corner of Lake and Main

P.O. Box 249

Hammondsport, New York 14840

September-October 2017 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**

*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God,  
who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)*

Hurricane Harvey has brought record-breaking water and damage to the people of Houston and surrounding areas. As we continue to listen day-to-day about the destruction and the efforts to rebuild, our thoughts turn in many directions. How can we help? Why did this happen? Is this from God? We think back over the disasters of our lifetime, and wonder about all who were impacted, and all who are saved.

The folks who attend Bible Study have been remarking how the Prophet Isaiah could be speaking to us today. God, speaking through the prophet, is bringing evidence against the people, charging that they have repeatedly and consistently broken the covenant. He begins with how we have made idols of wealth and power, how we turn to silver and gold to show our worth. Isaiah continues in the next chapter with how we rely on people with power; and how the haughty and arrogant will be humiliated. This week Isaiah continues with the sins of: greed, self-indulgence, cynicism, moral perversion, and social injustice. All of these idols cause us to falsely rely on ourselves and our possessions to keep us safe, when in reality, it can be taken away in a moment.

And at the same time, throughout the book of Isaiah, God keeps offering the people his undying love, and speaks of his woe and regret at their unwillingness to turn to him and honor their part of the covenant. God repeatedly speaks of the ways he will tend and care for his people any time they turn to him.

For the last few weeks I have been preaching about our relationship with God. How do we slow down and listen (aside from the flashing lights in our rearview mirror)? Do we, like Peter, pay attention to our fear of the waves and wind, or do we call out to Jesus, trusting that he will immediately take our hand and pull us to safety. Can we follow the example of Jesus with the Canaanite woman, whose daughter he initially compares to a dog, and then reveals a transformed heart and brings healing to the "other"?

In other words, in times of uncertainty, when we experience life's ups and downs, trials and tribulations, where do we turn? We know that we were never promised a rose garden; but we are offered a closer walk with God who has the power to save. The Creator who loves us deeply, as His own beloved children, has called us and continues to call us to turn to him. His grace and mercy are enough to sustain us, and to bring us always to a place of shelter.

I invite you to consider making a donation to Episcopal Relief and Development to assist the victims of Hurricane Harvey. And second, to make time each day to turn to God and listen for his plans for you.

May God's peace be upon you,  
Lynne +

## **Hurricane Harvey**

A note from Tamara Plummer, Episcopal Relief & Development. "I just wanted to take a moment to let you all know about ways that we are letting folks know how they can help. Here are 6 ways to support the work of Episcopal Relief & Development and to support response post disaster."

1. **Donate to the Hurricane Harvey Response Fund** to support impacted dioceses as they meet the needs of their most vulnerable neighbors after this event.
2. Please **don't send food, clothing or other items!** Donations such as these can actually become more of a burden on the local diocesan leaders than a benefit. The most efficient option is supporting the local economy to respond.
3. **Sign-up on the Ready to Serve** page to register as a possible volunteer in the future. These are the lists Episcopal Relief & Development staff share with dioceses when they are ready to recruit external volunteers.
4. **Read Rob's Blog** on best response practices found on the website.
5. **Pray!** for all those affected by Hurricane Harvey and get the latest program updates on Facebook and Twitter @EpiscopalRelief and episcopalrelief.org
6. **Share the bulletin insert**

If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat, please don't hesitate to reach out to me and I will be happy to help. Peace and Blessings! Tamara Plummer, Asset Map Coordinator, US Disaster Program, Episcopal Relief & Development (212.518.0548) [tplummer@episcopalrelief.org](mailto:tplummer@episcopalrelief.org) <https://www.episcopalrelief.org>

## **Quilt Show & Bake Sale**

Friday, September 8 (12:00 – 5:00) and Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> (10:00 – 4:00)  
Free Admission!

Baked goods and coffee/tea available in the Parish Hall

Quilt Raffle (tickets 1 for \$5, 5 for \$20, drawing September 24<sup>th</sup>)

Join us and bring a friend to the St James Quilt Show which will be held in our Sanctuary on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. We will have a concurrent bake sale in the Parish Hall, first, for the attendees and their families who might want a snack, and second, for the community to take delicious baked goodies home. Let us know if you have a quilt you would like to display. As always, we can use your help. Sign up in the Parish Hall, to set up, clean up, welcome our guests, serve the guests a snack, cashier, or to bake goods. All proceeds benefit the Stained Glass Window restoration and protection project.

## **Chicken & Biscuit Dinner**

Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 in the Parish Hall

Mark your calendars and let your friends and neighbors know that the very popular Chicken and Biscuit dinner will be held on September 16<sup>th</sup>. It is one of the favorites of the community, and we always appreciate the nearly 100 people who enjoy the hospitality and the meal. Sign up sheets to volunteer are in the Parish Hall.

## **Vestry**

Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00

The Vestry meets once a month throughout the school year, and we give thanks for the Vestry members who serve three-year terms, along with the two Wardens, who serve two year terms. The Clerk, Pledge Clerk, and Treasurer also help the parish to run smoothly and may or may not be members of the Vestry. This September, along with the usual business of the parish we will again take a look at our various missions and ministries. We are going to start by looking at fund-raising (in particular the Dinners). After an initial discussion or two, we will bring the discussion to the congregation. The minutes are usually posted within a week of the meeting. Questions? Joys? Concerns? Can be addressed to Rev Lynne, or any Vestry member, whose names and pictures are on the bulletin board.

## **CROP Walk**

**October 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00**

For the past few years St James has participated in the CROP Walk which helps raise funds for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry and nationwide hunger. CROP Walk is part of a nationwide program through the Church World Service to combat hunger in the United States. Twenty-five percent of funds raised stay in the local area. This year's CROP Walk is Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and starts in Bath.

## **Holy Land**

**Informational Meeting September 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00**

**St Michael's Geneseo**

Rev Lynne and six parishioners from St James had an exciting and faith-filled Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May and offered a brief presentation with food, photos, stories, and reflections of their pilgrimage. Rev Lynne will be leading a group of Pilgrims to the Holy Land in the October 2018. Flyers and itineraries are available in the church office, or send Rev Lynne an email to receive the information as an attachment. An informational meeting will be held on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at St Michael's in Geneseo. All are invited to learn more, ask questions, and discern if this might be the right time for you to experience walking in the footsteps of Jesus' birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. Feel free to invite a friend.

## **All Saints' Day**

**Celebrated Sunday, November 5<sup>th</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 leave a note in the collection plate. Reminders will be placed in the bulletin a few weeks prior to November 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **Stained Glass Windows**

### **See how far we have come!**

St James has thirty-four windows in need of care and protection. Some, like the two of Jesus are instantly visible, others can only be seen up in the tower, or in the side rooms and stairwells. The restoration process includes removing the paint from the exterior wooden frames, cleaning and glazing the windows, repairing cracked or broken pieces, and reinforcing the windows where the lead is sagging. The windows will then be covered with a special clear coated protective glass. Our total cost is going to be around \$34,000 and the Vestry has agreed to pay 50% from the building fund. Amazingly, through the “adopt-a-window campaign,” and associated donations, St James is very close to raising the other fifty percent. Thank you, St James!

Willet Hauser, now part of Associate Crafts, has contracted to begin the work in the Spring. We are still working out the start date, that will be dependent on the weather. Once they begin the work, they work six days a week to get it done. They will, of course, work around weddings and funerals.

## **Sunday School**

Join us every Sunday morning, week in and week out, for Sunday School. All ages welcome! We are now using the curriculum, “Seasons of the Spirit” for multiage groups which using the lectionary readings of the day with a wide variety of craft activities to enhance learning. Join Gladys Palmer, the Sunday School teacher, and her weekly assistant for this Bible based music, stories, and fun!

## **Backpack Program**

Many thanks to you all for helping to collect, pack, and distribute backpacks and school supplies to more than 48 Hammondspont School students. This is a great way for us to show our support to our children and youth as they return for another academic year. We are happy to partner with the neighboring churches and Catholic Charities to create a service to families who need some assistance in preparing for the upcoming school year. The excess materials were taken to the school to be distributed as the need arises. Thank you!

## **Altar Flowers**

Each week we have flowers on the high altar in thanksgiving, or in memory of a loved one. If you would like to donate flowers, simply sign up on the Flower Calendar in the Parish Hall, then complete the information on the envelope and place it in the plate, or give the envelope to an usher. We ask a donation of \$25 to cover the cost of the weekly flowers.

## **Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry**

The 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.

### Funeral Planning and Planned Giving

It is often following a burial service that we each begin to think about our affairs. Did you know that you could sit with Rev Lynne and plan your funeral service? You will be given time on your own to consider readings and hymn choices; communion or not, Rite I or Rite II, readers, pall bearers. You can decide which, if any, family and friends you would like to have say a few words at the service. You can start to make decisions about cremation or coffin, burial or scattering, and the time and place for that to happen before or after the funeral or memorial service. It is a lovely gift for your family to know exactly what you want when the time comes. While you are considering your affairs we also invite you to consider leaving a gift to the church, either in the form of an item, such as a window, chalice, or linens, or a monetary gift. If you would like to update your plans, or create a plan, contact Rev Lynne at 569-2647.

### Garbage & Snow Removal – Are you being called?

We give thanks to Mary White who gathers and removes our garbage week after week. As Mary hopes to spend the winter in Florida, it is time to find another person who is willing to offer this gift. You collect the garbage from kitchen and baths on Monday afternoon and take them to the curb. On Tuesday morning, if possible, you return the can to the kitchen and put in a new bag. Simple, right? If interested, contact Rev Lynne.

We also seek someone to remove snow from our sidewalk and steps. Again, simple. If we get more than 2 inches that sticks past 10 a.m. could you shovel, snow blow, and salt? The most important time is early on Sunday mornings, preferably by 7:30 a.m. so the ice melt has a chance to work before we gather. Are you willing? Or do you know someone (a teen) who might be interested at a modest price?

### Stewardship Story: Between Giving and Receiving

A young person wanted to be on fire for the Lord. She was trying many things and going to many places. More than anything she wanted to experience the peace that surpasses all understanding. She went to a host of differing worship services, spoke with several pastors, scoured YouTube, and even read a few books.

There remained within her spirit a lingering doubt: a fear that there was more she wasn't getting. She went to a Pentecostal worship service and pretended to speak in tongues, and then felt guilty for weeks. She fasted and prayed. One day she merely sat and waited for God to show up, and it was a very long day indeed. Not far from her house was a rather small and not so well-kept church. She had seen the elderly pastor walk by her house on his way to this church, where despite his age he still preached every Sunday and led a weekly Bible study group.

One day as he was walking by, he looked up and noticed the young woman sitting on her porch. He recognized the worried look. "What is troubling you, my dear?" he asked. And out poured all her worries and fears and doubts. With tears wetting her face, she cried out, "I just don't think I am getting all I can from God." The old pastor smiled and said, "The answer to your problems is quite simple, very simple indeed. The secret to faith is not what you get from God. It is in what you give."

*~ Make a Statement 52+, 2015*

## Prayer List

Sandy C., the Mack family, Carol B., the Doug Graulich family, Kimmy G., Brody B., Jade & Jordyn, Scott, John B., Harvey V., Craig F., Kevin G., Joseph, Henry, Gregory D., Kris, Susan M., Robert G., Pat, Michael W., Daniel E., James R., Eva Marie, Brandon, Walt Y., John, Cheryl, Shari & Jeffrey, Becka, Stephanie, Brett, Lindsey, Dick, Bev, Janice, Michael, Fred, Bruce, Brandon, Anja, Steve, Daniel, Nancy, Joe, Jason, the Food Pantry, those suffering from addiction and those in the military, especially Cody.

DATE	CHALICE	ACOLYTE	READERS	USHERS	SUNDAY SCHOOL
Sept. 3	C. VanHouten	L. Nichiporuk	S. Pulver L. Graulich	J. Skinner C. Skinner	J. Rogerson
Sept. 10	J. Grillo	C. VanHouten	W. Torp C. VanHouten	M. Piersons J. Piersons	D. Noteware
Sept. 17	M. White	J. Grillo	K. Packard S. Buchanan	P. Forenz N. Forenz	J. Derr
Sept. 24	N. Forenz	M. White	M. White G. Briscoe	C. Manikas P. Manikas	E. Kowulich-Covel
Oct. 1	C. VanHouten	N. Forenz	L. Graulich A. Edmister	L. Grillo J. Grillo	J. Rogerson
Oct. 8	J. Grillo	C. VanHouten	W. Torp S. Pulver	M. Piersons J. Piersons	D. Barney
Oct. 15	L. Nichiporuk	J. Grillo	W. Torp C. VanHouten	C. Manikas P. Manikas	K. Derr
Oct. 22	C. Skinner	S. Buchanan	C. VanHouten G. Briscoe	P. Forenz N. Forenz	L. Nichiporuk
Oct. 29	J. Grillo	C. Skinner	S. Buchanan K. Packard	N. Folts L. Grillo	D. Noteware

**IF YOU CAN NOT SERVE WHEN SCHEDULED, PLEASE FIND A SUBSTITUTE**

## Upcoming Dates

- Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup> – 7:00 First Friday Fellowship at Avoca Methodist Church
- Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – Labor Day (Office is closed)
- Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> – South East District Clergy Meeting
- Friday and Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – Quilt Show and Bake Sale (see above for times)
- Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – South East District meeting, Watkins Glen
- Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> – Vestry Meeting at 7:00
- Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – Holy Land Introductory Meeting (see above for more info)
- Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 – 6:00 Chicken and Biscuit Dinner
- Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> – Book Group at 5:30
- 9:30 Women's Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> – n's Breakfast at Burgers and Beer
- September 25 – October 8<sup>th</sup> – Rev Lynne on vacation; Gary to cover
- Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 First Friday Fellowship, Bath First Presbyterian Church
- Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> – South East District Pre-Convention Meeting St Peter's in Dansville; pot-luck supper at 6:00, meeting begins around 6:30
- October Vestry Meeting – TBD
- Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> – Book Group at 5:30
- Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 Women's Breakfast at the Chat-a-Whyle
- Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> – 2:30 Brookdale