

# From St. James' with Love

Corner of Lake and Main  
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March 2010

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The Rev. Sandra K. Curtis, Rector

607.569.2534

Dear People of God,

I went to visit a friend few days ago. It was cold, and the ground was covered with snow. Most everything except the road and sidewalks were still white. As I walked up the sidewalk to the house, I noticed that the snow had melted back about five inches on each side of the walk, exposing the brown grass. And there, right in the center of that grass were beautiful green shoots coming out of the cold earth -- snowdrops! That's the name of those little white flowers that seem to pop out of the ground every year just before the crocuses. In fact, some of those green shoots had a stem with a white flower starting to open. Well, the official date of the beginning of spring is just a few days away.

The time toward the end of Lent and leading to Easter is just like the cold earth. Everything seems barren and empty; nothing is happening; everything is quiet. People are reexamining themselves and the promise of God, that he loves us so much that he gave his Son to die upon the cross so we might have eternal life. And during Holy Week, we deliberately walk with him to that cross through our liturgy. It is hollow and strange; the joy is missing; Good Friday is overwhelming. Everything seems lifeless, just like the earth in winter.

But like that seemingly lifeless earth, something is happening. If we were to dig into the ground before the shoots reached the surface, we would notice that the bulbs would have already sent shoots of green upward. Oh, we can't see them yet, but crocuses, tulips, daffodils and many other bulbs are already awakening and moving toward the surface. And, the living creatures in the ground are beginning to stir, too.

Everything seems lifeless on Good Friday, too. But things are happening. No one actually witnessed the Resurrection itself, but we know it happened because of the witness of the Disciples and others. Nothing else could have turned a totally dejected group of mourning disciples into such joyous people unless they saw the Lord. You see, God was involved, and something was happening even when everything seemed lost and dead. We still have some time of Lent and Holy Week left to consider, but the time for joyous celebration is coming near.

Please come and join us as we walk with Jesus that last week of his life, and help us celebrate his Resurrection.

April 1	7:00 P.M.	Maundy Thursday Liturgy
April 2	12:00 noon	An Ecumenical Good Friday service at the Presbyterian Church
April 2	7:00 P.M.	Good Friday Liturgy with Reserved Sacrament
April 3	8:00 P.M.	The Great Easter Vigil
April 4	6:30 A.M.	The Methodist Church invites all of us to a Sunrise Service at the Head of the Lake. Breakfast following at the Methodist Church
April 4	9:00 A.M.	Celebration of the Resurrection and Holy Eucharist

**PRAYER CORNER**

We ask all at St. James Church to keep the following people in their prayers.

†Cecil	†Roxie	†Jim	†Amy	†Bud
†Adrienne	†Maria	†John	†Charlene	†Walter
†Pat	†Lillian	†Heather	†Carolyn	†Ruth
†Hal	†Betty	†Curtis	†Mary	†Sue
†Carl	†The Howard family	†Lori	†Jessica	†Charles
†Jean	†Hunter	†Linda	†Bill	†Candy
†Patty	†Teralin	†Lee	†Mike	†Mary Beth
†David	†Adam	†Nancy	†Alice	†Betsy
†Gene	†McKennah	†Georgia	†Kathy	†Marie
†Richard	†Kali	†Peter	†Cora	†Michele
†Gail	†Doug			

The Church of Kisima in Kenya    Trinity Church in Canaseraga

Those who serve our country in the military, especially Vance, Forrest, Zac, AJ, Michael, Lael and Grayson.

Those who suffer with addictions

Our thoughts and prayers are with David Burch and his family at the death of Mary Jane and with Jeff and Kathy Kennedy and their family at the death of Kathy's mother June Conway. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

We give thanksgiving for the 50th anniversary of Jack and Connie Morris

(Please let Mother C. know how people on the prayer list are doing).

## Vestry Highlights

February 18, 2010

- Motion made by Jim Grillo, second by Mary White to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2009 and file for audit. Carried.
- Motion to let the Treasurer borrow from the Restricted Fund up to the amount of \$20,340.66 (the deficit portion of the 2010 budget) as needed for payment of bills.
- Accepted the Treasurer's Report for January 2010 and filed for audit.
- Sent \$294.00 to Children's International for our sponsored child Denise for the year 2010.
- Accepted the \$7,000 donation from Mercury Aircraft for use in the renovation of the Undercroft.
- Accepted the \$1,000 donation from the Meade Foundation for use in the renovation of the Undercroft.
- Purchased 120 chairs for Keeler Hall.
- Invested the Aeschbacher Fund money in a CD.
- The Audit will be completed by June.
- Darlene Herrick will replace our present cleaner.
- Nick Forenz updated us on the renovation project and we are almost at a closure, except for a few minor things that need to be done.
- Greg Learned is talking with Peckham & Son about the reed rank and cleaning of the organ.
- Nick Forenz and Jim Grillo will put up the new sign donated by Jim and Linda Grillo on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May.
- Spring clean-up of the church and yard - May 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. We will be clean-ing inside the church as well as the yard.
- Bishop Singh will visit and dedicate the new Undercroft sometime in late June or July 2010.
- Fr. Phil Kuhn will present a Monday night study "Living the Faith" during Lent.
- Starting in March a Women's group will start on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 9:30 a.m. to work on projects for the church or just get together for fellowship.

## LAY MINISTERS SCHEDULE - MAY 2010

<b>MAY</b>	<b>CHALICE</b>	<b>ACOLYTES</b>	<b>READERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>
<b>2</b> IV EASTER	C. Van Houten	J. Grillo	NT C. Skinner OT M. Samson	P. Manikas C. Manikas
<b>9</b> V EASTER	L. Nichiporuk	N. Forenz	OT Co. Van Houten NT S. Wilson	J. Grillo L. Grillo
<b>16</b> VI EASTER	C. Skinner	L. Nichiporuk	NT C. Bidwell OT D. Erway	B. Frey R. Frey
<b>23</b> VII EASTER	J. Grillo	C. Skinner	OT E. Kosan NT N. Torp	W. Barney D. Barney
<b>30</b> VII EASTER	N. Forenz	J. Grillo	OT Ce. Van Houten NT M. White	T. Dykas S. Dykas

**If you are unable to serve, please ask someone else to take your place**