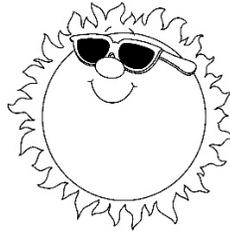


From St. James' with Love

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

From the Rector's Corner

I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!' (John 16:33)



“Summertime, and the livin’ is easy” (Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong) keeps floating through my mind. As does the tragedy of Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC. Add to that the miracle stories of the Gospel that we have been reading during this “Ordinary” time, while none of life feels ordinary right now.

I must admit that it’s hard to beat the beauty of Keuka Lake and the vineyards at this time of year. School is out, summer folks are arriving, festivals and events have begun in the Square. I believe the corn will be knee-high by the 4th of July, and some people are bragging about tiny squash on their plants, although my neighborhood rabbit is making sure I won’t be one of them.

So how do we live this multi-layer, multi-dimensional reality of our lives and our faith? How are we called to respond to the grief, struggles, and sadness that surround us? How do we live fully into the message and promise of Jesus Christ of an abundant life, full of God’s loving kindness? Maybe you don’t think about any of these things. Maybe you just enjoy the exquisite moments of summer as each day comes. Or maybe you are so caught by grief, or the tension in the air, that you can’t sleep at night.

It is my belief that God is present at all times and in all places, even when God may seem silent or absent. Sometimes I think the invitation is to “Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.” (Romans 12:15) Sometimes the invitation is to get silent, to make space amid the chaos of my life for the “sound of sheer silence,” (1 Kings 19:12) that comes immediately before God speaks hope in my heart.

We know that in this life there are ups and downs. Yes, it would be nice to always be “up”, but then again, I think of the roller coaster, and staying “up” would be no fun at all. “In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, Jesus has overcome the world.” Love came to earth, and dwells among us. Our hope is in the Lord . . .

Peace,
Lynne +



**In the Company of Angels
A Free Concert – In Memory of Our Musicians
Sunday, July 5th at 3:00 at St James Episcopal Church**

Join us, and bring a friend, on Sunday, July 5th at 3:00 for our First Annual Memorial Concert with reception to follow. We have invited musicians from the community to join us as we remember Arlene Santus, Dick Hucheson, John Rogerson, Mary Jane Burch, Lauren Peckham, Cecil Van Houten, and all who have contributed to our music program. Dr. Robert Ferris, St Thomas, Rochester will play a variety of pieces on the organ, and Wendy Gould will play the flute with Ellie Boutwell accompanying on the piano. Bring your voice as Tom and Carol Bidwell will lead us in song, and we will play a few favorite hymns as well.

Landscape Update

Thanks to a generous bequest, a great landscaping company, and the hard work of our parishioners, the landscaping in the front and on the sides is complete, and looks fantastic! Well, almost complete. We hope to place a bench on the side of the church under the trees, so you can have a place to sit and enjoy the summer sunshine with a friend.



Backpack Program

St James is going to coordinate the Backpack program offered by Catholic Charities in Hammondsport. Keep your eyes open for the flyers as we enlist your help in gathering backpacks and school supplies for students in the Hammondsport School District.

Audio-Visual System

We are aware that our audio-visual system is in need of an upgrade, and we are hoping to obtain some funds this year from a Taylor Grant to make that dream a reality. We know that the sound system works better in some parts of the church than others, we know we have one portable microphone that at times has to be shared by the preacher and the officiant. We know that our system does not work well with people with hearing aids. We need more speakers, and some of our equipment is a bit dated. We are seeking estimates to equip us with both audio and visual upgrades that will benefit the entire congregation, as well as our guests when we host events in the Parish Hall.

The Spirit is at work – Evangelism 2015–2016 Goals Underway!



At the June 9th Vestry meeting we continued to implement the goals set by the parish this spring.

Our Vision Statement is: 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

We also focused on several aspects of evangelism:

- The Vestry has made a financial commitment to Evangelism and the growth of St James by authorizing the creation of a restricted Evangelism fund.
- We have ordered some sample pew card holders for brochures and welcome cards.
- We have created new welcome cards and brochures for use in the church, and at community events.
- We have placed 500 St James custom labels on water bottles to be given out at St James during Village events.
- We have ordered key tags with St James information to promote our message
- We will include a prayer for parish growth in our weekly Prayers of the People
- We will get information about St James to the local Bed and Breakfasts, local hotels, and the Chamber
- St James is “**Open for Prayer**” on Thursdays from 10:00 – 2:00 during the summer months, with a brief noonday Healing Eucharist that features the saint of the day.
- We will be “Open for Prayer” Saturday and Sunday, July 11th (11:00 – 3:00) and 12th (12:00 – 4:00) during the Art Show. We’ll be at The Kingham Residence for the Boat Show on Saturday and Sunday, July 18th (11:00 – 3:00) and 19th (12:00 – 4:00), and “Open for Prayer Saturday and Sunday, August 15th (11:00 – 3:00) and 16th (12:00 – 4:00) for the Craft Fest. Volunteers welcome – see below.

Welcomers and Docents Needed

St James will have the front doors open, and a table with water and brochures set up during the Art Show, Craft Show and other Village Events. Joan will offer a Docent training to anyone who is interested on Sunday, June 28th immediately after coffee hour, and would be happy to talk with others who might be interested in future training. In the meantime, we need folks to sign up for a two-hour shift to welcome visitors, hand out water, and answer questions about the Village and St James. No Experience Needed!

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.

Prayer List

Ted	Michele	Katie	Sue
Lori	Dylan	The Howard Family	Connie
Stuart	Barb	Joy	Nancy
Eva	Sandy	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
Nate			

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

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.

St James Bazaar

Although Nancy and Floyd stepped down from taking full responsibility the Bazaar, we will still have the Bazaar on October 31st and **we need your help**. The Bazaar this year, and in years to come will be even more of a St James Community event than it has been in years past. Nancy and Floyd will continue to contribute, but on a much smaller scale. This gives each of us an opportunity to contribute our gifts and talents. We don't want to limit anyone's imagination or creativity, so give us your best ideas and work. We encourage everyone at St James to offer 2-3-4-5 (or more) of what they enjoy making/doing: needlework, metalworking, woodworking, beading, junking, photography, painting, ceramics . . . you name it, we need it. With all the variety and gifts we would have the best Bazaar in the area! We will also, of course, recruit for baked goods closer to the day.

To help us prepare, we are going to have two Bazaar Craft days at St James. **Wednesday, July 15th from 1:00 - 5:00** bring your project, teach your project, learn a new project. Let's come together and create together. The second day, closer to the event, is **Saturday, September 12th from 1:00 to 5:00**. We will again bring what we are working on, or what we want to learn, or what we would like to teach, and create together. Bring the whole family, bring your neighbors, and crafty friends.

Journeys

My Faith Journey by Jerry Lange

I was born and grew up in Dayton, Ohio, where the Wright brothers are revered and Glenn Curtiss is never mentioned. My mother was a devout Christian Scientist. They don't believe in doctors or medicine. Illness is because of a lack of faith. My father was totally the opposite and unchurched. I was forced to go to church every other Sunday and didn't believe in what they were saying. I spent the alternate Sundays with my dad doing projects.

I met Sue at college while I was in the process of flunking out as a math major. Then after a year joined the Air Force. In the military, you have to declare a religion to put on your dog tag. So I put down Episcopal because Sue was one. I had never been in an Episcopal church. Sue and I got married two years later just before I went to Viet Nam for a year. After the Air Force, I went back to college as a physics major and graduated with honors. When I was hired by Kodak we moved to Rochester.

After we had our first child, Sue wanted her baptized, I didn't care. I said things in the service I didn't believe. Shortly after, I started to have an urge to explore Christianity. I think I always believed in a God, but not one that was active in my life. I started going to a bible study at All Saints Episcopal church in Irondequoit. Two years later when our son was baptized, I was baptized with him. A big step in my faith journey. I was confirmed soon after and regularly attended All Saints. But I was far from being a believer in an active God.

Alcohol was becoming a large part of my life. The alcoholism was winning. The depression was deep with debates every morning when I was shaving whether I should kill myself today or wait for tomorrow. I got as drunk as I could every night, stopping just shy of getting commode hugging drunk. I felt like I was a worthless person. I even told my boss that he's paying me too much, that I wasn't worth it. I was not a nice person to live with and am still amazed that Sue stayed with me. But she is a person who keeps her word, and she gave her word before God that marriage is forever, unless things get really bad and dangerous.

We went to Marriage Encounter but often the sharing of our letters became an encounter rather than a joining. Then we joined a Share group, an offshoot of Marriage Encounter, with 6 other couples. We met every 2 weeks. We're still close friends with most of them.

I was asked by a friend at church to go to a Cursillo weekend which is an intense teaching of Christ and Christianity. It changed my life. Palanca is one thing taught on the weekend. That's a gift that's freely given, the person receiving it may not even know they got a gift, and certainly not who it is from. I decided to give Sue a palanca of not drinking until she went on her Cursillo weekend, a few weeks hence. After a few days I started into alcohol withdrawal at work, but had no idea what was going on. I told my boss I had to get out of there, he took one look at me and said to take the rest of the week off. I came down to our cottage on Keuka Lake, determined not to drink, no matter what. I finally had to barricade all the doors and windows because monsters were trying to get in. I was going through the DT's with hallucinations.

That passed and I felt fine later on, better than I had felt for years. I started drinking again after Sue went on her weekend as I had planned. All the depression, suicidal thoughts, feelings of worthlessness came back in spades.

After a short time I just couldn't take it any more and sought help for my depression. I still didn't connect it with alcohol. That help got me into an alcoholism recovery program. I haven't had a drink in the 30 years since, and am still active in the program. Eventually I could learn again, the marriage is repaired, and life is good.

Somewhere in all of this I and/or we saw numerous marriage counselors, therapists, etc.

After we joined St. James', I was starting to want to believe in an active God. A book that the book study group was going to read several years ago sounded like just what I was looking for. That book, and others, but more importantly, listening to Sandy, Gary and now Lynne tell about their experiences with what certainly appear to be miracles have truly made me the believer I was searching for.

My Faith Journey by Sue Lange

My faith journey began with my baptism in a small New England, non-denominational church. When my family settled down several years later after WWII I began attending St James Episcopal church in a small town just outside of New York City. It was there that I attended Sunday School, Youth Group, sang in the youth choir, and was confirmed. We had a wonderful, charismatic youth minister. I remember telling him that I wasn't sure that I believed everything we were learning in confirmation class and he told me that God didn't mind questions. When we had questions it just meant that we need to learn more. I never did come to a point where I believed everything. One area that I had difficulty with was that suicide was a sin and that those who died that way could not be buried on church grounds. I always thought that God was a forgiving god.

At the high school I attended we had chapel every week and were required to attend bible class.

By the time I got to college I was no longer attending church every week. But there was an Episcopal church near campus and in a time of need that was where I went. There has really been no point in my life that I have not felt God's presence and felt like I could talk to him whether I was attending church or not. I'm reminded of the footprint poster. He has always been with me and carried me through some tough times.

Jerry and I met at college and later married. When we settled in Rochester one of our neighbors invited us to Bible study at her church. It wasn't long before we became members. We were very active for a long time. We attended a Marriage Encounter weekend and from that experience became members of what we called a Share Group. It was a group of 7 couples all of whom had attended a marriage encounter weekend. We began each meeting with a prayer, then each person shared their feelings on a particular topic, often related to God. We ended each meeting with the Lord's Prayer. It was a very close group and I believe we all grew from the experience. It was from this group that we came to attend cursillo. It was that experience that changed our lives dramatically. But I will let Jerry tell you about that.

When we retired and moved to the Lake we began attending St Mark's in Penn Yan. We are conservative in our beliefs. We became quite involved as we had been in Rochester. But priests come and go, and in time we found that St Mark's was not the right place for us. Our search for a church led us to St James – a place where I feel God's presence along with his many blessings.

Children and Youth

Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. (Mark 10:14b)

We are blessed to have Lin as a teacher, and a year-round Sunday School, and the Vestry would like to do everything we can to make sure that we are providing the best faith education for our children and youth. So we are making some changes immediately, and then looking to support our programs even more in the months and years to come.

We believe –

- . . . our children are not our future, but our present, and therefore are always welcome in the Sanctuary during any and all Services.
- . . . that youth in 6th grade and older will benefit from being in the Sanctuary during the entire service, and are encouraged to volunteer to be an Acolyte, and if desired, to be put on the Rota as Readers, Ushers, or to assist with the Altar Guild.
- . . . in maintaining a loving and supportive environment for all our children. We will have two adults in the Sunday School room, and will add a third adult if there are children under the age of 5 in the class. Please see Rev Lynne or Lin if you would like to volunteer to assist in the classroom.

In the months ahead we hope to create a play space for our babies and toddlers, as well as a quiet space for (grand)parents with these little ones to who need to roam, rest, or recreate. We also hope to build on our programs for middle schoolers (grades 6-8) and high school youth.

Holy Land Presentation
Monday, July 6th at 6:00 p.m.

Rev Lynne had an exciting and faith-filled Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May and will offer a brief presentation with photos, stories, reflections, and souvenirs on Monday, July 6th. There will be time for your questions, and then the exciting announcement of the next journey. Please join us in the parish hall. Light refreshments will be provided.

Upcoming Dates

- June 29 to July 3rd – Vacation Bible School!
- July 5th – In the Company of Angels at 3:00, free Memorial Concert with reception to follow
- July 6th – Holy Land Presentation by Rev Lynne in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- July 9th – “Open for Prayer” at St James 10:00 – 2:00 with Eucharist at noon.
- July 11th – “Open for Prayer” with welcome table during the Art Show from 11:00 – 3:00
- July 12th – “Open for Prayer” with welcome table during the Art Show from 12:00 – 4:00
- July 13th – Book Group meets at 6:00, Walking the Bible, Book V, Chapter 1, “The Wars of the Lord”
- July 15th – Wednesday – Bazaar Craft time – 1:00 – 5:00 bring your crafts, your eagerness to learn a new craft, your Pinterest ideas, or just come and enjoy!
- July 16th – Women’s Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. at the Kosy Korner in Bradford
- July 16th – “Open for Prayer” at St James 10:00 – 2:00 with Eucharist at noon.
- July 18th – at The Kingham Residence with welcome table during the Boat Show from 11:00 – 3:00
- July 19th – at The Kingham Residence with welcome table during the Boat Show from 12:00 – 3:00
- July 23rd – Emeritus at 2:30, join us for hymns, readings, reflection, and Communion
- July 27th – Book Group meets at 6:00, Walking the Bible, Book V, Chapter 2, “Half as Old as Time”
- July 30th – “Open for Prayer” at St James 10:00 – 2:00 with Eucharist at noon.
- August 6th – “Open for Prayer” at St James 10:00 – 2:00 with Eucharist at noon.
- August 10th – Book Group meets at 6:00, Walking the Bible, Book V, Chapter 3, “Sunrise in the Palm of the Lord.”
- August 13th “Open for Prayer” at St James 10:00 – 2:00 with Eucharist at noon.
- August 15th – “Open for Prayer” with welcome table during the Craft Fest from 11:00 – 3:00
- August 16th – “Open for Prayer” with welcome table during the Craft Fest from 12:00 – 4:00
- August 20th – Women’s Breakfast at the Chat-A-Whyle at 9:30 a.m.
- August 20th – “Open for Prayer” at St James 10:00 – 2:00 with Eucharist at noon.
- August 24th – Book Group meets at 6:00 to complete Walking the Bible, “And the People Believed,” and, “Take These Words.”
- August 27th – “Open for Prayer at St James 10:00 – 2:00 with Eucharist at noon.
- August 27th – Emeritus at 2:30, join us for hymns, readings, reflection, and Communion.

Lay Minister Schedule

<i>DATE</i>	<i>CHALICE</i>	<i>ACOLYTE</i>	<i>READERS</i>	<i>USHERS</i>
July 5	C. Skinner	L. Nichiporuk	W. Torp C. VanHouten	J. Piersons M. Piersons
July 12	J. Grillo	C. VanHouten	K. Packard J. Grillo	N. Forenz P. Forenz
July 19	M. White	J. Grillo	L. Graulich A. Edmister	R. Battaglia C. Battaglia
July 26	N. Forenz	M. White	M. White J. Grillo	P. Manikas C. Manikas
August 2	L. Nichiporuk	N. Forenz	W. Torp C. VanHouten	J. Grillo L. Grillo
August 9	C. VanHouten	C. Skinner	K. Packard J. Grillo	J. Piersons M. Piersons
August 16	C. Skinner	L. Nichiporuk	L. Graulich A. Edmister	N. Forenz P. Forenz
August 23	J. Grillo	C. VanHouten	W. Torp C. VanHouten	R. Battaglia C. Battaglia
August 30	M. White	J. Grillo	K. Packard J. Grillo	P. Manikas C. Manikas

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

