

# From St. James' with Love

Corner of Lake and Main  
P.O. Box 249  
Hammondsport, New York  
607-569-2647  
May-June 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**



*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. (John 14:27)*

In case you haven't noticed lately, you don't have to look very far to find controversy, political maneuvering, fear, violence, and oppression. I have no idea who is going to win any of the elections. I have no idea how to handle the millions of refugees and displaced persons. There is unrest about the economy, jobs, medical care, and education. And the list goes on and on. One thing I do know is that even closer to my mind and heart than strife, is God's peace. Given freely to us. Given as one of the many gifts of God to a fragile and fallible human race.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you," was part of the Gospel lesson on Sunday, along with the message of love, and the promise of the Holy Spirit. Who could ask for more in life than these three blessings: peace, love, and the promise of an Advocate? I am not offering this peace to you – Jesus does on his last night with the disciples. And as his disciples, those who have been baptized, those who listen to his Word, those who join in the community of prayer, we are given this peace as well.

In this issue you will discover some of the ways that St. James continues to grow into the promises of Christ, and how we desire to go into the world and make this peace and love visible. Our Vision statement (above) crafted last year points us in that direction. Throughout this year we will continue to explore ways to use our varied gifts to bring about the kingdom, not only in this building on Sunday, but in our daily lives.

Peace,  
Lynne +

## **Mother's Day Smorgasbord**

**Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 – 6:00

Tickets are \$9.50 and the food is *all you can eat*

## Shopping Bags and Evangelism

Several of us gathered in the Village Square on a blustery cold day for Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00-2:00 (ish) and attempted to give away our new shopping bags with some information about the earth and plastics, as well as about St James. We gave away about 20 bags, not bad seeing about 40 people came out in the chilly gloomy weather. Now it's your turn! We invite you to take a bag and use it! We invite you to take a bag for a friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member. Yes, we want our name and our message out in the world, and, we care about creation. Take a bag from the back of the sanctuary, and pass it along!

St James Clean-Up Day  
Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00 - ?



Mark your calendars now, and strengthen those cleaning muscles. We will have two teams; one working outdoors clearing up the grounds, the other in the Sanctuary, cleaning the pews, and the many areas that gather dust. Please bring your tools (rakes, clippers, buckets, rags, gloves) and your energy to beautify our property.

### **New Photo Directory!**

St James is going to have a new photo directory, thanks to Lifetouch! They offer FREE directories, as long as we have our photos taken. EVERYONE is invited to schedule a time to have their photo taken and you will receive a free 8x10 and a free directory. We are scheduled to have photos taken on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. and again on Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. Not only you, but our neighbors are invited to participate as well. Families, friends, neighbors, strangers, can come to St James to have a family photo, with the pets, their hobbies, and a choice of backdrops. They will receive a free 8x10, but *will not* be included in the Directory. The more the merrier, as each person (family group) sitting for a photo gives us a directory, and extras to give out in the future. You can include your contact information only, or a photo only, or both. All of this is your choice. More information to follow on how to sign up for a photo slot. Let Rev Lynne know if you have any questions.

### **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.

## St James Vestry Retreat and Planning for 2016-2017



St James Vestry met on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 until 3:30 to review the St James Vision, and to dream, and plan for our future. In the morning we reviewed our 2015-2016 Goals and were pleasantly surprised how many we had met. We then set goals for 2016-2017. In the afternoon we met with Sharon Arthur, a lay woman from St Peter's in Geneva who helped up to learn more about Stewardship. You will notice monthly stewardship articles in our newsletter, and we will encourage you to find ways to link our goals with stewardship, and stewardship with our goals. You can see the minutes from the meeting on our webpage [www.stjames14840.org](http://www.stjames14840.org) or ask any Vestry Member, or Lynne, for more information.

### *2015-2016 Goals*

Dinners and Bazaar – accomplished!      Yard Sale – accomplished!  
Backpack Program – accomplished!      Family Community Events – accomplished!  
Cookie Patrol – accomplished!      Open for Events – accomplished!  
First Annual Memorial Concert, and Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long – accomplished!  
Evangelism key tags, brochures, welcome cards, pew racks, Thursday Eucharist – yes!

### *2016-2017 Goals*

Continue with Dinners – Backpack program – Yard Sale – Memorial Concert – Family Community Events –  
Cookie Patrol – Open for Community Events – and Evangelism

### *New Goals for 2016-2017*

- Call Rev Lynne full-time by the beginning of 2017
- Implement ways to make our Vision part of our worship and daily lives
- Explore the possibility of hosting a Summer (Sunday evening) Concert Series
- Become familiar (and more comfortable) with ways to talk about stewardship (time and talent and treasure)
- Offer a Senior potluck lunch once a month with a movie, or games, or speaker to follow on a trial basis.
- Find opportunities for youth to be incorporated into the life of the parish and worship
- Continue to look at ways to build up our nursery and Sunday School programs
- Have a Greeter in addition to Ushers to help welcome newcomers

## Stewardship Reflections

### **Mary White**

Faith is not a static object but a journey with highs and lows and most definitely growth. Earlier this year I was involved in a business training that asked us to come up with our "word for the year". After many long walks, conversations and prayers for guidance the word that I settled on is "blessed". I have received so many blessings in my life including my unique talents. During times of shaky self worth I ask God to help me appreciate the gifts that He has given me as well as those of others without comparing. For a good part of my life I believed that we earned our blessings through our good works and had difficulty understanding how bad things happen to good people.

I was then challenged to think about stewardship. Giving thanks to God for all that has been given to me by sharing my time, talent and treasures to His service. Not because I have earned what I have been given but because of God's love and grace. As it states on the Episcopal Church website "Stewardship is about being grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from God. The Episcopal Church sees stewardship as more than simply contributing

money to the church; it's also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering for ministry and mission. It's about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity."

## **What Does Stewardship Mean To ME**

**Nick Forenz**

Often when we hear the word Stewardship we think... "oh no, they want more money". Sometimes this is the case but, there are many ways you can be a good steward. We have all heard of giving the giving of your Time, Talent and Treasures. There is a balance of these three things that is right for each of us in our stewardship journey. I say journey because, at least in my case, the balance of how much each of these I give changes over time. The balance may be influenced by your income, your health, the state of your personal relationships, your relationship with the Lord and your relationship with the church to name a few. Your list may be longer or shorter but, I think you get the idea.

During the early years of my church life (small child to teenager), I had very little treasure to give. I remember allowances during those times ranging from 25 cents to \$3.00 and while I did not truly know why I gave some of that money to the church, I knew it was the right thing to do; most likely because of the example set by my parents. They often held down more than one job and money was tight but, there was always money to put in the alms basket on Sunday. During that same time period I also gave of my Time and Talents by becoming an Altar Boy (Acolyte). I felt the need to participate on a higher level and this seemed like a good way to do it.

Next came a time when I fell away from the church. Many reasons, all secular but, none-the-less 'real' to me at that time. Financial pressures were high. I remember eating spaghetti, hamburgers, pizza and hot dogs, frequently because they were inexpensive. So, no extra Treasure. With a new family, house, a job, and bills to pay, I did not think I had any spare Time to give to a church and at that time in my life I had not acquired many skills that I thought I could offer, so no Talent. Of course I realize now that this was not true. I could have easily given of my Time and Talent in many ways that cost nothing and required very little commitment but at that time, I could not see that.

My true understanding of Stewardship came when Patty and I first came to St. James. The welcoming, friendly atmosphere was something neither of us had experienced before and within a few weeks we knew we were here to stay and that God was at work in the community of St. James. St. James was truly a family of God. Being involved in the Community of St. James made me realize that this was something that needed to not only be sustained but, enabled to grow. So the first time the Stewardship campaign was rolled out I had some decisions to make. My income was higher so I pledged part of that income to the church. I truly believe that God doesn't think that the amount I now give being more financially secure is any better than the 25 cents I gave each week when I was 10 or 12 years old. Over the years as St. James and my income have grown, my contributions have increased. I think we need to re-examine what we give every once in a while. For me things like moving our priest from ¼ time to ½ time, and then to ¾ time, the Undercroft Renovation, Roof Repairs, etc. were all times when I took a look at what we were giving to St. James on a monetary basis. Most recently, when the Vestry made the Decision to call Lynne to be our full-time priest, I once again looked at what Patty and I were giving. A couple of weeks prior to this decision, I probably would have said, "I'm giving all I can" but, when I considered the what the impact of having Lynne here more will have on the St. James Family and what it may mean for our taking the works and teachings of Jesus out into the community, I once again increased our pledge. So my plea to you is 1) give whatever you think you are able to 2) reassess what you give periodically (maybe each time you get a raise at work or based on something going on at the church), and regardless of the amount you give of your Treasures, don't forget to give of your Time and Talent too.

Being a "jack of all trades" I soon found a niche at St. James helping out with maintenance and construction projects, I reprised my role as an Acolyte and took it one step further becoming a Chalice Assistant. I would encourage everyone who may be interested to try these roles; whether you are young or old. Remember if an 8 year old boy can learn to be an Altar Boy, anyone can do it. Each one of us has at least one unique talent and what a shame it will be if it is not shared with others. Talent can also be given in an endless list of other areas such as music, writing, cleaning, helping out with the dinners and bazaars, mowing lawns, being on the Altar Guild. If there is something you would like to try, please speak with Lynne. Remember, if you try it and do not like it, you can always try something else.

When it comes to time, this may be the easiest thing to give to our St. James Family. If you are one of those folks that say: "I don't have any real talents"; number one I beg to differ because there are a whole host of things that we can use your help with. Many times just having an extra person around at an event can be priceless. So I encourage you to seek out way in which you can donate your time to keep the good work of St. James going.

So to summarize, Stewardship is a journey that changes based on where you are in life, how much you can give (Treasure), what you have to give (Time and Talent), and where you are in your relationship with God. So I ask you to reflect on your life, determine where you are, where you can contribute to all or any of the good things that we do at St. James and remember \$3.00 is as good as \$300.00 and 15 minutes is as good as 2 hours, and your talents may not be the same as someone else's but, they are all unique to you and we would love to have you share them with us.

Thanks for listening to the story of my Stewardship Journey and I hope you can join me on this journey as part of the St. James family so we can continue to use our church as a base from which we can continue to reach out to the greater community to do great things Jesus has asked us to do.

### **Food Pantry**

Joan Rogerson

In the early 1980's a parishioner of St. James, Joan Smith, became concerned about the effect of the economy on the less well-off segment of the Hammondsport area population. While St. James could not change the economy, we could help alleviate some of the hunger in our area and so she proposed opening a food pantry in our church building that would be supplied by donations of food and of money. So Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry was opened. Although it started out as a St. James project, and we continued to house it in our church, it soon became an ecumenical project for the churches of Hammondsport with staffing and contributions from the various churches as well as contributions from the Hammondsport community.

For many years the pantry was housed in a small closet in a hall off the Keeler room in the undercroft, but as more families were serviced and as more food became available through a connection to the Food Bank of the Southern Tier, it eventually outgrew that small space. After the latest round of renovations during 2009-2010 the pantry was relocated to our only Sunday School room. All the cupboards in that room were used to store food and garage type locking doors were installed on the fronts of the cupboards. The pantry refrigerator and freezer were also re-located to that room. To access the food pantry the former outside cellar door was expanded to house a covered entry, but those stairs remained the primary source of entry for clients and food deliveries alike.

### **Food Pantry, part two**

Rev Lynne

Last year the Vestry expressed some concerns about the Food Pantry at St James and entered a dialogue about the steep stairs, the lack of parking, the number of times a month the Pantry is open, as well as insurance coverage since they became a separate non-profit agency (501.c.3). This year, with our growing number of infants and children, and our need for flexible space, we have asked the Pantry to find other accommodations by September 1<sup>st</sup>, while assuring the leadership that we would continue to offer our support, time, talent, and treasure to this vital community organization.

Please keep the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry in your prayers as they seek new housing that includes parking, easy access for people with mobility issues, and a friendly landlord.

### **VBS Ocean Commotion**



*Calling all children and grandchildren, neighbors and friends to the*

2016 Vacation Bible School to be held at the Methodist Church

Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup> through Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup>

“Welcome to Ocean Commotion! Every day, our kids are challenged to stand for God in their schools, among their friends, in our culture . . . no matter what. And they’re bombarded with the lie that God’s Word isn’t true when it talks about earthly things (rocks, fossils), so it can’t be trusted to tell the truth about spiritual things.”

“Noah experienced the same challenges during the time of the great Flood thousands of years ago. Yet, by God’s grace, he was able to **Stand for God, Obey God, Trust God, Thank God, and Fear God** . . . no matter what. The biggest watery catastrophe the world has ever known happened during his lifetime. But through it all, Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”

Opportunities for you to offer your time, talent, and treasure

- sanctuary overseers – greet kids as they are arriving
- a tech person is needed for the daily opening
- sea shells

Other items needed for snacks, decorations, games will be compiled soon

### **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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 middlers (grades 6-8) and high school youth.

### **South East District Meeting**

The next South East District meeting of the Diocese is scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke's Branchport. Our delegates Charlie Skinner, Luanne Graulich, and Anne Oates will attend, and anyone else is also invited to attend these meetings that help us to engage in the work of the District, the Diocese, and Mission work. The June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will focus on the first draft of the proposed 2017 Diocesan Budget. If you are interested in attending, a shared meal (bring a dish to pass and your own place, settings) starts around 6:00, and the meeting starts at 6:30. Contact any of the delegates for additional information.

### **Lawnmower**

**Thanksgiving and gratitude to the anonymous donor of the St James lawnmower.**

## Prayer List

Cin	Nancy F.	Pat	Becky
Jerry	Art	Food Pantry	Richard & Mary
Becky	Lillian	Leslie	Norma
Henry	Lindsey	Bob S.	Bonnie S.
Muriel C.	Tom	Patsy	Bill
Ruth	Rae	Tom D.	Teresa
Stephanie	Nancy	Tom & Betty	Douglas
Joe	Chip	Monica & Tony	Ted & Sue
Adrienne	Eva Marie	Susan M.	Robert G.
Daniel E.	James R.	Sandra B.	Howard Family
Brayer Family	Schoeffler family		

**Those serving in the military, especially Tony, Zach, Vance, Merle, Scott, Jeffrey, Brandon, Brison, Ray, and Gage. Those suffering from addiction.**

### Vestry Minutes

As you know, Vestry meetings are open to all members of the congregation, and are usually held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00. In case you would like to skip the meeting, yet read about the decisions being made on your behalf, and the work being done in and around our parish and community, the Vestry Minutes, along with Annual Meeting minutes and reports, and Vestry Retreat minutes are available on the St James website under "News." You can always talk with a Vestry Member or Warden (their names are on the back of the Newsletter) about your ideas, concerns, joys, or questions.

### Episcopal Night at Frontier Field

Save the date for Redwings Baseball, on Friday, July 15, 2016! An annual tradition, Episcopal Night at Frontier Field draws in hundreds of Episcopalians from around the Diocese. Let's go out to the ball game! Gates open at 5 p.m., and the game starts at 6:05 p.m.. Following the game there are fireworks and a brief RPO concert. More information to follow.

### Upcoming Dates

- **May 7<sup>th</sup>** – Mother's Day Smorgasbord Dinner 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- **May 9<sup>th</sup>** – Book Study – Life Together, Chapter Three at 6:00 p.m.
- **May 11<sup>th</sup>** – Vestry Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- **May 14<sup>th</sup>** – Work Day beginning at 8:00 a.m.
- **May 15<sup>th</sup>** – Pentecost & Baptism Calvin McCabe
- **May 15<sup>th</sup>** – Youth Group Party!

- **May 19<sup>th</sup>** – Women’s Breakfast at the Wagner in Penn Yan at 9:30 a.m.
- **May 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Book Study – Life Together, Chapter Four at 6:00 p.m.
- **May 26<sup>th</sup>** – Brookdale House at 2:30
- **May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup>** Rector on Vacation
- **June 6<sup>th</sup>** – South East District Meeting, St Luke’s Branchport 6:30 p.m. (dinner at 6:00)
- **June 8<sup>th</sup>** – Vestry meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- **June 13<sup>th</sup>** – Book Study – Life Together, Chapter Five at 6:00 p.m.
- **June 14<sup>th</sup>** – Lifetouch Photo session 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (by appointment)
- **June 15<sup>th</sup>** – Lifetouch Photo session 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (by appointment)
- **June 16<sup>th</sup>** – Women’s Breakfast at Chat-a-Whyle in Bath at 9:30
- **June 17<sup>th</sup>** – Baccalaureate Service for Graduating Hammondsport Seniors at St Gabriel’s 6:30 p.m.
- **June 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Brookdale at 2:30
- **June 27<sup>th</sup>** – Book Study – Life Together, Chapter Six at 6:00 p.m.
- **June 27<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>** – VBS Ocean Commotion

### LAY MINISTER’S SCHEDULE

DATE	CHALICE	ACOLYTE	READERS	USHERS	SUNDAY SCHOOL
May 1st	N. Forenz	J. Grillo	M. White J. Grillo	J. Skinner C. Skinner	D. Noteware
May 8th	C. VanHouten	N. Forenz	K. Packard L. Graulich	L. Grillo J. Grillo	M. White
May 15th	L. Nichiporuk	C. VanHouten	A. Edmister C. VanHouten	C. Ahern M. DeRosa	E. Kowulich-Covel
May 22nd	J. Grillo	L. Nichiporuk	M. Piersons G. Palmer	P. Forenz N. Forenz	K. Derr
May 29th	C. Skinner	J. Grillo	M. White J. Grillo	M. Piersons J. Piersons	D. Barney
June 5th	M. White	C. Skinner	W. Torp M. White	L. Grillo J. Grillo	J. Derr
June 12th	N. Forenz	M. White	S. Pulver J. Grillo	J. Skinner C. Skinner	J. Rogerson
June 19th	J. Grillo	N. Forenz	K. Packard L. Graulich	C. Manikas P. Manikas	L. Nichiporuk
June 26th	L. Nichiporuk	J. Grillo	A. Edmister J. Grillo	M. White N. Folts	D. Noteware

