



Straight Talk

A newsletter of life and ministries at St. James Episcopal Church

October 27, 2017

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Volunteer Highlight

"These Two"

by Wendy Ormsby

We basically have two volunteers, on Mondays in the office. Mary Ann Williams has been volunteering in the office for about 2 years but for the last almost year she's been bringing Nuha Al Harithi along with her. These two wonderful, funny ladies do a morning inspection of the building and grounds. They make sure everything is in order and then they get to the really important work. Nuha has enlisted Mary Ann to teach her to read English. I have the privilege of listening to them as they work on sentences and hard words. They started with simple children's readers and are now up to harder texts. I can tell that, as things get easier for Nuha, the laughter between the two grows. They giggle as they talk about concepts and sentences. They bond over the silly things they have to repeat over and over as they dissect meaning and sounds. They compare cultures, aging, and families. It's quite a joy to be near as they do this inspiring work.



Nuha, and her husband, Simon, visited and lived in the United States off and on for about 20 years, finally moving to Utah permanently 5 years ago. They are from Syria, originally. They are the parents of 6 children; 4 daughters and 2 sons. All of their children became either Doctors or engineers. Sadly, they lost one daughter to cancer a few years ago. Nuha first learned English from a German family that hired her to babysit their children. Nuha says her attendance at church and her participation at Women's Coffee Hour every Wednesday morning has helped her language skills more than anything. Nuha

and her husband are studying to take the US citizenship test. Their goal is to become citizens next year! Mary Ann is working hard to assist in preparing them for this goal. Along with her tireless work to perfect her English speaking, reading, and writing skills, Nuha cares for her large family and also bakes delicious goodies that she sometimes shares with office staff. We are so lucky!

Mary Ann and her husband Ed came to Utah in 1971. Here they raised their 2 boys and 2 girls. Mary Ann worked for years in various capacities in special education roles, including 30+ years as Director of Special Education in Weber County. She recently retired completely from her role as a consultant for the State Office of Education where she helped people navigate the special ed system. She mentored teachers, directors, and evaluated programs and facilities that work in special education in our state. She started volunteering at St. James because she saw a need. She and her husband worked to gather folks to clean the building every week, staff the front office, and keep an eye on things. Now two years later she watches over the cleaning and security of the building as she makes her rounds with Nuha every Monday morning. Mary Ann loves being a member of St. James because of the outreach ministries that are important to St. James. She loves the volunteer spirit of the parishioners and the value they place on helping the community at large.

We sure appreciate all that these hard working women do for St. James!

Search Committee Report

**Town Hall Meeting:
Sunday, Oct 29 at 11:15 am**

Prayer for the search for our next Rector

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. James.

Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our parish.

May our new spiritual leader be one who is an upright and faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.

We ask your direction and guidance for the Search Committee, our vestry and wardens who shall choose candidates and our next rector. Grant them perception, faithfulness and joy, so that they may hear your voice in all their deliberations.

And, grant us all the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those to whom we have entrusted this process.

*Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us.
Come Holy Spirit.
We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Members of Search Committee

The members of the search committee were appointed by the Vestry after applications were received. They are Mike Mitchell - Chair, Susan Furca, Lili Brady, Maryann Williams, Clive Oliver, Ashton Palmer, (and Dave Klemm, Jr. Warden and Debbie Matticks, Sr. Warden as ex-officio not-voting members).

In other member news, Betsy Tubbs has had to resign and David James will step in to take her place. He is in the process of undergoing orientation by the Rev Canon Mary June Nestler and being brought up to date on the work accomplished to date.

Collecting Information

The Search Committee's first task is to collect information and compile it into a Parish Profile. The forums and questionnaire being done currently are to figure out who we are at this particular point in time, not who we have been in the past and not who we want to be in the future!

The first forum was last Sunday at 9:00; the second will be this coming Sunday, October 29th after the 10:00 service. Afterward, the questionnaire will be made available for anyone not able to attend a forum. We want to hear from everyone.

Diocesan Support

The Rev Canon Mary June Nestler, the Transition Officer of the Diocese is supporting the Committee throughout the process. She has come to meetings and has made herself available to everyone on the Search Committee. She will continue to guide us through the steps along the way.

It is our intention to be as transparent as we possibly can be during this process while maintaining necessary confidentiality.

Watch for more in upcoming issues of Straight Talk!

Reformation Lecture Series



A 7 part series of lively discussions has been organized by Hope Lutheran in Sandy. These lectures will be held every Wednesday evening, 7 pm, through November 8. Each discussion will happen at a different location.

Click here to see the whole [Reformation Series](#).



Week 4 Pledge Series 2018

"A Different Sense of Prosperity"

[Click here for a link to the article.](#)

For Reflection:

Do you know people, as I do, who live their lives sacrificially? Make a list if you do. Learn about it - ask why they live so sacrificially by listening for God and loving their neighbor.

How could you live your life more sacrificially and encourage others to do the same?

(The Episcopal Stewardship Network)



Diocese of Utah 150th Anniversary Celebration!

St. James is hosting the November 18th event. **RSVP** to our congregational representatives (Angela Micklos and Nancy Tanner) or at [150th Events!](#)

The 150th Celebration is a social event which will include:

(catered) finger foods, desserts, beverages (possibly adult beverages)
historical displays representing the Episcopal church in Utah
potential displays of church ministries today and going forward (from churches around the diocese)
remarks by the bishop
a chance to mingle and socialize with our parish, the bishop, and others from around the diocese

Adult Forum

**The Adult Forum originally scheduled for Sun, Oct 22
has been rescheduled for
Sun, Nov 12, at 9am**

Follow the link below to access the program materials. Read & view the videos and come with your thoughts and questions on Nov 12th!

[Adult Forum Materials](#)

*Welcome to The Big Class: **A Christian Response to Gun Violence***

How should Christians respond to the problem of gun violence in the U.S.? *In this class, Episcopal Bishops Eugene Sutton (Maryland) and Ian Douglas (Connecticut) offer insight into the reasons for high rates of gun*

violence in the U.S. They discuss violence in the context of Christianity, offering guidance on how to interpret violent passages in scripture and discussing violent responses to conflict on a theological level. Finally, they offer concrete suggestions as to what Christians should do and how we should act in response to gun violence in the United States.



Thanksgiving Baskets

St. James has been asked to carry on the tradition of Thanksgiving Baskets for the Jordan Valley School.

Jordan Valley students have severe multiple disabilities including autism, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, seizure disorders, communication impairments, genetic disorders and syndromes, deaf-blindness, and students who are extremely medically fragile.

Caring for these kids is very difficult and is made more difficult if the family is having financial troubles. Each year, some of the families turn to St. James for help with Thanksgiving meals and for decades you have responded generously. Now through November 20th, we will be collecting Thanksgiving "fixins". Please donate instant potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes/yams, canned vegetables and fruit, stuffing, and desserts. When shopping, think of your favorites and please grab some extras for the families at Jordan Valley.

If you would like to give a gift card for turkey or other items the families might need, please give them to Terry Palmer or leave them with the office staff.

Any questions? Contact Terry at 801-518-1404 or email thpslc@comcast.net

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Joys of Camp Tuttle Fundraiser Extravaganza

Come to the 1st annual fundraiser and enjoy live music by the Camp Tuttle band with dinner and a silent auction!

Saturday, November 4th, at 5:30 -9:00

All Saints Church Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City,
Utah

For any questions, or inquiry about donations, please contact Richard (Skruphi) Sutliff at Skruphi.tuttle@gmail.com

We hope to raise money for camp scholarships and to upgrade our ropes course. The event will include:

- A delicious dinner cooked by our celebrated camp chefs
- A silent auction
- The opportunity to win Major Awards (including dinner with our very own Bishop Scott Hayashi)
- Singing along with the Camp Tuttle Band
- S'mores over a campfire
- Fellowship with your favorite Counselors!



Pancakes!!!

Saturday, November 4th, *8 am -11 am.

At St. James.

To benefit the 4th Street Clinic.

(*Note the time change.)

Youth Ministry Happening Event 2017



Registrations are now open!

When:

Friday, Nov. 17th at 7 pm to Sunday, November 19th at Noon.

Where:

All Saints Episcopal Church in Salt Lake City

For:

Senior High Youth
(Grades 09-12)

Register:

Please visit camptuttle.org website under registration tab or click here. If you have attended a previous Happening event, you are eligible to be a youth leader. Please contact Karen Gleeson to be apart of this awesome event! kgleeson@episcopal-ut.org or 801-322-4131.

What is "Happening - A Christian Experience"?

Happening, is a renewal weekend for high school youth. It is unique because it is a retreat primarily led by teenagers for teenagers. It is an inspirational retreat, full of music, discussion, surprises, laughter, and new friends.

Mobile Food Pantry Outreach

There are more than 170,000 Utah students who qualify for free breakfast and lunch at school and 40,000 are in the Granite District. St James is sponsoring

a mobile pantry truck with a \$5,000 donation once again this year. There are multiple opportunities to volunteer at a truck at the end of a school day. It takes about 90 minutes plus travel time. There are schools in Kearns and West Valley.



Nov. 6 & Dec 4:

Douglas T Orchard in WVC

Nov 10 & Dec 8:

Silver Hills WVC

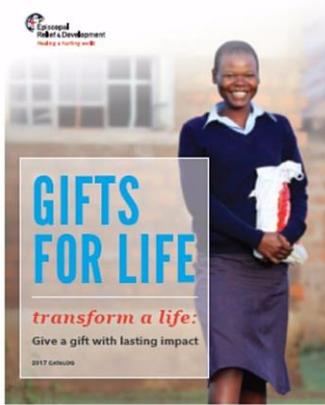
Nov. 21:

Beehive Elementary in Kearns

We need 6-10 volunteers each of the afternoons, so if you want to put a group together with friends, family, or coworkers that would be a big help. There will be more dates available after the first of the year. If you are interested contact David James.

Episcopal Relief & Development

**"The one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."
2 Corinthians 9:16**



The Episcopal Relief & Development has taken on the task of 'healing a hurting world.'" They do good work like supplying a village with clean water, empowering women by teaching the benefits of immunizations and the developmental milestones of children so they can teach their villages, or training volunteers to educate others about HIV/Aids. Your gifts to the Episcopal Relief

Development organization gives people the tools to succeed, enriching lives all over the globe. The 2017 Christmas catalog is in the Narthex on the entry table. Peruse the content for gifts you can give this Christmas season. [Click here for the link to their website.](#)

The week ahead at St. James

Oct 29	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship
		9 am	Church School & Teen's Forum
		11:15 am	Parish Town Hall Meeting
Oct 30	Monday	5:30 pm	EFM-Common Room
Oct 31	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Rm
Nov 1	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
		7 pm	Search Committee Meeting - Office

The Following Week

Nov 5	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship
		9 am	Church School & Teen's Forum

		11:15 am	Coffee Hour
Nov 6	Monday	5:30 pm	EFM Group-Common Room Pastoral Care Committee-Office
Nov 7	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Room
Nov 8	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
		7 pm	Search Committee Meeting-Office
Nov 10	Friday	6 pm	Games Night-Host Carol Gentner
Nov 11	Saturday	Noon	Food Bank Restocking



Click the links below:

St. James Website
National Episcopal Church Website
Utah Episcopal Diocese Website
150th Anniversary Website
Utah Diocese Newsletter

Straight Talk is published weekly. Please submit your articles ideas and photos to wendy@stjamesutah.com by Wednesday noon.

We appreciate your input on the newsletter.

Wendy Ormsby, editor / Carol Gentner, editor's editor