



Straight Talk

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

Nov. 17, 2017

In this issue:

- Search Committee Report
- A Thank You from Granite Education Foundation
- Journey To Generosity
- 150th Celebration Events
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- The Happening Youth Event
- Mobile Food Pantry
- Sally Bytheway Concert
- Sub For Santa
- St. James Calendar

Search Committee Report

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.*

Report on Town Hall Meetings

The search committee is in the process of looking at the data and comments collected at the Town Hall meetings in order to complete our parish profile. We were very successful in the number of responses with about 60% of our active congregants attending a meeting or submitting the questionnaire online. Here are some highlights from the questionnaire:

- 70% think our congregation is somewhat healthy, with another 15% feeling our congregation is very healthy. There were some responses that were neutral and only 3 that felt we were somewhat unhealthy.
- 55% think the conflicts of the past are somewhat resolved with another 15% feeling they have been very resolved. 10% still feel that issues are somewhat unresolved and a few with no opinion (weren't here, etc.). 2 people felt that conflicts are still very unresolved.
- We are very happy to report that 90% of respondents are feeling well-informed!

In answer to the question, "What one thing brought you here?" most had to do with spiritual needs, community of St. James, brought as a child (cradle Episcopalian), wanted to worship where all are accepted, didn't want Mormon influence to pull children away and St. James was close in proximity.

In answer to the question, "What main thing keeps you here?" The themes of friends, family, spirituality, community, ministry, our service to others were prevalent.

Next Step

We invite all former Senior and Junior Wardens to meet with us after church on Sunday, December 3rd at 11:30 - grab a coffee and meet us in the Common Room. We value your input as we go through this process! If you are a former warden and are not able to attend that day, please feel free to send an email with what you see as critical issues to Mike Mitchell, Search Committee Chair, at mnmitchell123@msn.com.

GRANITE EDUCATION FOUNDATION



Click here for a charming [Thank You](#) for St. James' gift to The Granite Education Foundation.



**Please submit your pledge for 2018 by November 19th.
(if possible)**

"Imagining the Promised Land"

The Rev. Sarah K. Fisher

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

For Reflection...

- * Where do you sense God inviting you to go and explore? Where do you need to be attentive to God's invitation?
- * What are you stewarding in your life? Where do you see God in your stewardship?
- * How do you think the Israelites imagined the Promised Land as they were traveling? As you journey, how do you imagine the Promised Land?

[\(The Episcopal Stewardship Network\)](#)

Diocese of Utah 150th Anniversary Celebration!

St. James is hosting the event
November 18th at 6:00 pm.

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



From Rev. Terri: *"This event is the culmination of the 'anniversary year' and a joint celebration of our congregations and the ministries we do NOW. Each congregation is encouraged to bring parish banners and information about your ministries. It is my hope that every congregation will be represented. We all have powerful ministries to share with one another. This event is intended to build/renew/deepen relationships in the 'central' region of the diocese. It's is also about our hopes/vision for the future - our investment in the ongoing legacy of the Episcopal Church in Utah.
Thank you to all. I hope you all will be joining us on the 18th."*



Thanksgiving Baskets Donations by November 20

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!

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. 21:

Beehive Elementary in Kearns

Dec 4:

Douglas T Orchard in WVC

Dec 8:

Silver Hills WVC

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.



**The Sally
Bytheway
Chorale
Presents
The Road Home
Benefit Concert!**



December 2, 7:30 pm

They're baaaaaacccccckkk!

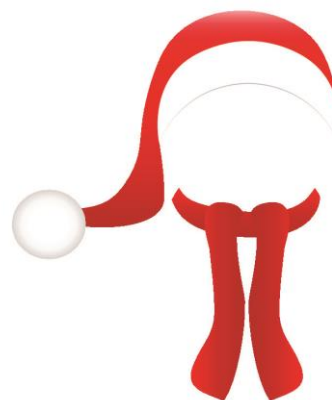
The phenomenal Sally Bytheway Chorale will perform at the Road Home Benefit Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 2nd at 7:30pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on the corner of 8600 South and 700 east in Sandy.

If you have seen them before you know they are talented. If you haven't seen them make sure you get a ticket this year! Tickets are available in the St James office during the week or see David James on Sunday.

All proceeds go to Utah's largest homeless shelter, The Road Home.

Sub For Santa Will Help Head Start

Sub For Santa information will be available this Sunday, November 19, 2017. The tags will be in the narthex, please pick one up and help us help the families and children of Head Start. Donations must be at church by December 10, 2017. Your gifts must be wrapped and marked with the information from the tag you picked up. If you have any questions, please contact Jinx Strout bbj63379@gmail.com or Wendy Hutchinson hutchinsonwendy@gmail.com
Thank you to everyone at St. James for your generous support of this project!



The Week Ahead at St. James

Nov 18	Saturday	6 pm	150th Anniversary Celebration!
Nov 19	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship
		9 am	Church School & Teen & Adult Forum
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour
			<i>Thanksgiving basket donation due</i>
Nov 20	Monday	5:30 pm	EFM Group-Common Room
Nov 21	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Room
		6:30 pm	Vestry Meeting-Office
Nov 22	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
Nov 23	Thursday		Thanksgiving-Office Closed

No choir Rehearsal

Nov 25 Saturday 12 noon Food Pantry Restocking

The Following Week

Nov 26	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship
		9 am	Church School & Teen Forum
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour
		1 pm	Food Pantry Distribution-Volunteers Welcome (13+ ages)
Nov 27	Monday	5:30 pm	EFM Group - Common Room
Nov 28	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee- Common Room
Nov 29	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
		7 pm	Search Committee-Office
Nov 30	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Dec 2	Saturday	7:30 pm	Road Home Benefit "Sally Bytheway" Concert



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